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Gas Contractor Expelled from Two Towns

COLUMBIA GAS - PAGES ... 1-3,5,8,13,15



The Dorchester based gas utility contractor Feeney Brothers were thrown out of Lawrence and Andover last month. Feeney partially caused the gas explosions last September while working on a gas line in Lawrence. With Columbia Gas now projecting that restoration of service to be delayed until mid-December, residents still have more questions than answers.

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VALLEY PATRIOTS OF THE MONTH

HERO IN OUR MIDST - COMMANDER MARILISA G. ELROD, MEDICAL CORPS, U.S. NAVY

John Cuddy
VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

In honor of Veteran’s day, November 11th, I sought out a Veteran that is still serving our nation; she is Commander Marilisa G. Elrod, Medical Corps (Undersea Medical Officer) United States Navy, the Associate Director for Profes-

sional Education at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth in Portsmouth, Virginia. In doing my research for the Valley Patriot article on Navy Senior Chief Douglas Bryant, and studying the history of US Navy submarines, I learned about this amazing Navy Officer. So, I’m going to ask her to tell her story to directly to you. Commander Elrod is writing in the first

person and hopefully the young people of the Merrimack Valley will be inspired by what she accomplished, and without student loans!

Commander Elrod: I am telling my story for you along with the assistance of John Cuddy to share with you my experience of exposure to amazing opportunities and the sense of belonging and purpose that came with joining the military. I know that when I was 17 and contemplating applying to the Naval Academy, I had no idea I was about to embark on a career filled with adventure... and many, many years of education completely supported through the Navy. Now, of course, I did not pay tuition, but I was required to serve years on active duty in return. Seen another way, when I finished my schooling, there was a guaranteed job waiting for me.

My mother’s father had been a pilot in the Navy in World War II and Korea. He was my idol and one of my best friends. When I was 16 years old, he tried to convince my older brother to apply to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, a place he wished he could have attended. My brother was not interested. To please my grandfather, I attended a summer seminar at the academy following my junior year of high school. I was a good athlete in high school, earning a total of 13 varsity letters in four different sports. During the summer program, I met the track and field coaches, who began recruiting me. I was also a National Merit finalist and I had been planning to apply to an Ivy League school, but I come from



a middle class family and did not want to burden myself or my family with student loans. The Naval Academy has top notch academics and a reputation to rival the Ivies. And I could keep running. I was sold.

At age 17, I found myself a plebe at the US Naval Academy. I had planned to be a Navy pilot like my grandfather, but quickly discovered that the pull towards medicine was stronger. I decided to compete for one of the 10 spots a year from the class of about 1000 that would allow



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Methuen Police Arrest 3 Juveniles, Recover Firearm after Report of Suspicious Activity

METHUEN — The Methuen Police Department arrested three juveniles and seized a handgun and ammunition after officers responded Tuesday to a citizen report of suspicious activity.

The suspects were found in possession of credit cards and identification cards reported stolen from a inside a Haverhill resident’s motor vehicle. As a result of the on-scene investigation, a 16-year-old male from Methuen, and 16-year-old and a 17-year-old males from Lawrence were arrested.

A Methuen Police officer was dispatched to a location on Monterey Drive at 10:20 a.m. for a report of suspicious activity — the caller reported three males in a motor vehicle with New Hampshire plates parked outside a residence while the homeowner was not home.

The first arriving officer noticed that three males were asleep or unconscious in the vehicle.

The operator, upon rousing, refused to provide his name or identification to the officer, which is a crime.

The operator was later identified as

the Methuen Juvenile. The driver was detained, and additional officers were requested to the scene. During the investigation, an officer observed a firearm in the passenger seat-back pocket. As the officer was attempting to info the other police on scene, the driver fled on foot.

One of the passengers attempted to run but quickly surrendered, as the second passenger then fled on foot toward Woodburn Drive.

Both fleeing suspects were found by officers shortly afterward.

A 9 mm bullet was found in possession of the driver, but since none of the boys claimed ownership of the firearm, all three were charged.

The 16-year-old Methuen juvenile op-



erator was charged with: Operating a Motor Vehicle without a license, providing a false name and address to a police officer, unlawful possession of a firearm, unlawful possession of ammunition, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

This suspect also had an outstanding arrest warrant from another jurisdiction.

The 17-year-old Lawrence juvenile passenger was charged with:

unlawful possession of a firearm, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

The 16-year-old Lawrence juvenile passenger was charged with: unlawful possession of a firearm, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

This suspect also had an outstanding ar-

rest warrant from another jurisdiction.

Methuen Police are working with Haverhill Police, and additional charges regarding the stolen property may be forthcoming.

“This is a perfect example of ‘see something, say something,’” Chief Solomon said. “In this instance, three suspects were arrested, an illegal gun was seized, and stolen property was recovered because a resident called the police.”

To prevent becoming a victim of motor vehicle theft, the Methuen Police Department reminds residents to always: Always lock all car doors. Roll up windows and close sunroofs. Never leave loose electronics in plain view. Not leave money in your car or loose change in plain view. Call police immediately if you notice something missing or observe suspicious activity.

The suspects were ordered held in custody for at least 90 days during arraignment at Lawrence Juvenile Court. These are allegations. All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty.

FROM ISRAEL TO THE VALLEY PATRIOT

What You Need to Know About the Murder and Media Coverage of Jamal Khashoggi

Forest Rain

VALLEY PATRIOT ISRAELI COLUMNIST

Jamal Khashoggi became a hot topic in the media when he disappeared on October 2nd after visiting the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. After days of incessant media coverage, the story suddenly dropped out of the news cycle.

There are a few basic things everyone should know about this story because their ramifications are wider than the murder of one man in a far-off land.

Background:

Most of us had never heard of Jamal Khashoggi until the media began discussing his disappearance. We learned that he entered the Saudi consulate in Istanbul but did not leave it. Later it seemed that he was removed, in pieces, in the luggage of the Saudi hit team who came to get rid of him.

To Western media this story seemed like a Hollywood thriller, one that merited round the clock media coverage - and that’s where the focus on facts ended and narrative began.

The most popular narrative seems to be: “The revolutionary, brave journalist went to the embassy to get documentation that would enable him to live happily ever after with the woman of his dreams, only to disappear, setting off an investigation that reveals international involvement with the



evil regime that led to his brutal murder. The corruption goes to the highest levels of government, U.S. government.”

This is a great synopsis for a standard thriller movie but what is really going on? Who is the good guy?

In this story we have an ex-pat Saudi man, the Saudi government and the country where everything occurred. Who is the good guy? Who should America support? The short answer is – no one.

Western culture likes to categorize good guys vs bad guys, cowboys with black hats vs cowboys with white hats. It’s very easy to know who is who when they wear hats symbolizing what side they are on.

American values uphold freedom of the press so the abused journalist must be the “good guy”, right? Much has already been written about Khashoggi and who he really was. Anyone interested can easily find

KHASHOGGI: PAGE 9

Hey Columbia Gas- The Homeless Have No Temporary Homes

Joe D’Amore
HOMELESS COLUMNIST

There are at least 350 trailers dotting the landscape of Campagnone green and the large parking lot at Pemberton Park along North Canal street in Lawrence. And the new owner of IndusPad, the former Polartec facility, has temporarily converted a portion of the facility into a congregant center offering hot meals, showers and 250 beds.

As recently reported by Columbia Gas it has 1,933 families — 6,764 people — aligned with temporary housing arrangements including hotel rooms. Therefore, the trailers and especially the IndusPad facility are largely unused with only a few dozen people taking advantage of the resources.

Carina Pappalardo, the Executive Director of The Psychological Center, which operates DayBreak homeless shelter in Lawrence was recently interviewed by WBUR Radio and asked out loud the obvious question that homeless advocates have been asking. Why are the area’s homeless not accommodated at these facilities? And by implication, when this crises is resolved and all those affected by the September gas explosions return to normalcy, why can’t some of these resources -such as trailers or portions of mill buildings- be used to house the most vulnerable residents of the city?

The answer is simple. Stigma.

The trailers are controlled by the police and the IndusPad facility is managed by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). If you are homeless you are not welcome. Entrance is granted only if you can prove that you are a resident of a home or apartment building that was affected by the gas explosions. Even though this is a viable use for these resources, the reality is that nobody wants to help people whose lives have not changed much from the gas explosions.

They are considered to be a security risk; silently profiled as drug addicted, gripped by mental health issues and some criminally inclined. They are also considered a perpetual drain of resources. They disrupt plans for economic development and improving the physical appearance of the city. Afterall, it’s not pretty to see a man or



woman in soiled clothes pan-handling at a street corner.

The homeless are a blight in Lawrence and the city’s government response is clear. Lawrence does not have the money nor the will to care for homeless people. And the state doesn’t either. Consider the investment the Commonwealth has made to manage a largely unused facility that can accommodate 250 people. Why will this line item in the state budget suddenly disappear when the last gas connection is made, and everyone returns to a warm home?

This condition serves to remind us that the homeless have few supporters in the Merrimack Valley. Compassion is a term loosely used but nobody has a solution. Volunteers, the faith community and advocates both in and out of government who are struggling to find solutions have no verifiable financial resources from the city, state or federal government. And even though the governor is pursuing policy initiatives to address the acute affordable housing crises in the state, no solution addresses the immediate problems. Homelessness remains unofficially criminalized in Massachusetts in varying degrees.

The trailers will be gone in the spring and the flowers and bees will return to the parks. Meanwhile, the homeless will continue eking out an existence in the shadows, under bridges, in abandoned buildings and up and down railroad corridors.

It’s a sad commentary of a massive societal ill.

Joe D’Amore is founder of the Merrimack Valley Hope Mission
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Corrections: Please contact the editors at valleypatriot@aol.com

The Valley Patriot can be found in more than 800 locations in 48 communities in Massachusetts and NH.

An Open Letter to the Victims of the Columbia Gas Explosions and Fires:

The Napoli Shkolnik law firm is proud to be working with the citizens of Massachusetts that have recently suffered damages as a result of the Columbia gas fires and explosions. On Friday, September 28, Napoli Shkolnik, David Raimondo and Associates and the Cunha Law Firm commenced two separate legal actions against Columbia Gas and its parent company.

The first action was filed as a class action and seeks to recover business losses for local businesses harmed by the gas outage and the fires. The class, if certified by a judge, seeks to include all businesses that have lost earnings or revenue as a result of Columbia Gas and its negligent conduct.

The second action was filed on behalf of Dean and Mona Thornhill and their family. The Thornhill's family home in North Andover was severely damaged by fire and smoke. This case seeks to recover damages for the Thornhill Family including property damage, out of pocket expenses, mental anguish damages.

Our firms stand ready to assist any of the residents or businesses of Andover, North Andover or Lawrence. Our hearts, thoughts and prayers go out to the many victims of this disaster. We call upon Columbia Gas to fairly compensate all of the victims as quickly as possible.

Patrick Haines
David Raimondo
Brian Cunha

Una carta abierta para las víctimas de las explosiones y los fuegos de Columbia Gas:

La Firma de Abogados Napoli Shkolnik se enorgullece por trabajar con los ciudadanos de Massachusetts que recientemente han sufridos daños como resultado de los fuegos y de las explosiones causadas por Columbia Gas. El pasado viernes, 28 de septiembre, Napoli Shkolnik, David Raimondo y Asociados y la Firma de Abogados Cunha Law Firm comenzaron dos acciones legales en contra de Columbia Gas y su empresa matriz.

La primera acción legal fue presentada como un pleito de clase y espera recuperar pérdidas comerciales para negocios locales afectados por la falta de disponibilidad de gas y por los fuegos. Si la clase es certificada por un juez, se espera incluir a todos los negocios que hayan perdido ingresos o ganancias como resultado de la negligencia incurrida por Columbia Gas.

La segunda acción fue presentada en representación de Dean, Mona Thornhill y su familia. El hogar de la familia Thornhill localizado en North Andover fue severamente afectado por el fuego y el humo. Este caso pretende recuperar los daños causados a la familia Thornhill en su propiedad, por gastos no presupuestados y por angustias mentales.

Nuestras firmas se encuentran listas para asistir a cualquier residente o negocio de Andover, North Andover y Lawrence. Nuestros pensamientos y oraciones están con todas las víctimas de este desastre. Solicitamos a Columbia Gas para la compensación justa y lo más rápida posible para todas las víctimas afectadas.

Patrick Haines
David Raimondo
Brian Cunha

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CAMPBELL’S CORNER with Linda Dean

“WEATHER 101” WITH AL!

Methuen Home Rule Petition Signed by Governor Baker

Governor Baker has signed into law H.4905, An Act relative to the City of Methuen’s petition to borrow to address Methuen’s school budget deficit. This legislation, sponsored by myself and cosponsored by State Senator Kathleen O’Connor Ives and State Representative Frank Moran, is critical for addressing the \$4 million deficit incurred by the Methuen Public Schools in Fiscal Year 2018. In April, it was announced that the school district had already exceeded its budget for special education services and that the city was facing a \$4 million deficit due to the increased spending. The deficit was partially caused by a late influx of students with special education needs.

The legislation was worked on extensively in conjunction with Senator Ives, Representative Moran, Legislative leaders in the House and Senate, the Department of Revenue, the Governor’s Office, and officials of the City of Methuen. The Department of Revenue drafted the language that restructures the city’s financial management personnel structure putting in place strong management and review processes for accounting and financial planning for both the City and School budgets.

This legislation authorizes the City of Methuen to borrow the \$4 million needed to address the deficit and puts in place structures that include permanent changes to the city’s financial management as well as state oversight for the duration of the loan. The bill also requires that the city hire a Chief Administrative and Financial Officer (CAFO) who will have the power

to manage, monitor, and advise the City Council, and the mayor on all financial matters, including school finances. Further, it requires state oversight by a Fiscal Stability Officer (FSO) who would also advise the city on fiscal policies, budgets, and have the power to review contracts. The level of state oversight can be increased at any time if the City of Methuen is unable to achieve a balanced budget, set a tax rate, faces a fiscal crisis that poses an imminent danger, or is unlikely to achieve fiscal stability.

Another positive development for the city is that Sean Cronin from the Department of Revenue has been appointed as the Fiscal Stability Officer for the city. Mr. Cronin brings extensive experience and a record of accomplishment to this position. Methuen is very fortunate to have access to his expertise in municipal finance. He will guide the city’s financial decisions, helping to develop budgets and validating contracts, as well as reviewing the school department’s fiscal 2018 and 2019 budgets and spending.

Although the legislation has passed and Methuen can begin to move forward in becoming more fiscally stable, the city has a long road ahead. This legislation however, will ensure that Methuen has access to the funding necessary to stabilize the city, and the expertise to move the city forward. It also institutes measures of state control and accountability so that the community does not face a similar situation again.

Representative Linda Dean Campbell was just reelected to the legislature. ♦

Al Kaprielian VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

Welcome to November and the last full month of the fall season. On November 4th at 2 AM Daylight Savings Time ended as we turned the clocks back one hour (fall back). Sunset will occur before 5 PM as the days continue to grow shorter and the nights longer. Recapping October it was a fairly weather month with five tornadoes which is unusual for October. We saw some warm weather for the start of the month before colder weather moved in by the middle of the month. Four tornadoes occurred on October 23rd. One was in Norton, MA, another was in Lincoln Rhode Island. Also tornadoes occurred in Hardwick and Hubbardston, MA.

On Monday October 29th a tornado occurred in Woods Hole MA. This tornado was also over the ocean and we call tornadoes over the ocean waterspouts. Usually tornadoes occur with thunderstorms during the summer months. However, we saw high instability parameters during October. These high parameters along with the clash of two different air masses caused the severe weather which resulted in tornadoes.

Power outages occurred due to downed trees and power lines. Also during October the other significant weather feature was hurricane Michael. Michael started as a tropical depression and intensified rapidly into a dangerous hurricane. Michael headed for the Florida panhandle where he made landfall at Mexico Beach with 155 mile per hour sustained winds 2 miles per hour short of a Category 5 Hurricane, the most severe hurricane.

The very warm ocean waters of the Gulf of Mexico contributed to the rapid intensification of Michael. Widespread power outages resulted from Hurricane Michael. As Michael moved inland north of the Florida Panhandle, he started to weaken as he moved over land. Hurricanes weaken as they move over land because they lose strength when they get from the very warm ocean waters. Also, friction causes



the winds to weaken and this resulted in a weakening of the hurricane. Hurricane season runs through November and the last day of hurricane season is November 30th.

As a result, we can still see hurricanes in the month of November. As October ended, we saw the weather quiet down and become more tranquil. October 31st (Halloween) was a quiet day for the World Series Champions Boston Red Sox celebration parade.

Congratulations to the Red Sox for winning the World Series and having the best record in major league baseball. They won 108 games and 11 in the post season for a grand total of 119 wins. Temperatures on October 31st were milder than the previous days. As we start November the weather pattern looks to become more active again. Time will tell if this active pattern continues into a good part of November.

Next month we will recap November weather and take a look back at this year’s hurricane season. Also we will talk about what to expect for December and also about coastal (ocean) storms. In the meantime enjoy the rest of the fall season and if you do not have a generator this is the time to get one. It is more important in the winter months to save your pipes from freezing if the power is out for a while. Stay safe and stay tuned to my weather article in December!! ♦



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Minicucci Replaces DiZoglio on Beacon Hill

COLUMBIA GAS, CHANGING EDUCATION FUNDING ARE TOP PRIORITIES

North Andover native Christina Minicucci - a Democrat - defeated Republican Ryan Losco earlier this month to replace outgoing State Rep. Diana DiZoglio representing Methuen, North Andover, Haverhill, and Lawrence.

We caught up to Minicucci the day after the election to find out what she plans to actually do once she takes office in January.

"Everyone's primary concern right now is Columbia Gas getting heat and hot water restored and making the community whole again. When you talk to people in North Andover and Lawrence that's their number one concern."

"Roughly 50% of my district in North Andover is affected and their primary concerns are getting their gas back. There are still a lot of unknowns, and a lot of confusion and cloudiness in the process. Every day the answers we get from Columbia Gas are a little bit different. I have a very strong feeling that this will not be resolved by the end of December. There is a high level of concern about an investigation in the coming year. I think the entire delegation has been focused on this and I'm looking forward to getting some answers myself."

Minicucci said she was also frustrated that Columbia Gas is not offering to pay for efficient heaters in their homes.

Asked what she was going to do about it, she said; "That's a good question, because as I've been campaigning I've been focused on talking to the people affected who don't have heat and their concerns that ratchet up as time goes on. I haven't had a direct line to everything that's being done by the current delegation. I think there will be a learning curve for me to figure out how I fit into that equation but I do believe we have to keep fighting to make sure they pay for everything and then I need to look at what didn't they do, what is their failure, is this pressure issue really the problem? I believe that's not really the issue here, the real problem is the crumbling infrastructure that Columbia Gas has been responsible for fixing that they haven't fixed in years. Why didn't they do this before? Why a 20 year long plan to upgrade infrastructure. If they can pull off replacing all these lines in 6

weeks why haven't they been doing that all along?"

What are your other priorities?

"One of the most important issues to me is education. I see how each local community spends on education each year, it's at least 50% of our local city and town budgets, the budget formula is based on foundation budget in, that's the way the state funds schools. It hasn't been revised since the 90s. When schools are underfunded, each city and town have to make up the difference. We spend a lot of money on education. The first thing that matters to me with 3 kids in the public schools is trying to revise the funding formula for education."

Look what happened in Methuen. The state funding formula creates a per-pupil [requirement] amount for each community to spend on education. So in Methuen they get a certain amount of money per-pupil. If that amount hasn't been adjusted since the 90s, the formula doesn't take into account the changing need of students in each city. Methuen probably isn't being funded properly from the state level. You don't know how many special education kids you will get in any given school year. If the formula is properly done they will get the money they need."

North Andover has a buffer to make up the difference but Methuen didn't have that. We need to help communities like Methuen take the local burden off and fund them properly."

Special education is a very real concern. She said she is not in favor of what she called "high stakes assessment testing" like MCAS. "I am not a fan of high stakes assessments like the MCAS. A big chunk of our money goes to testing companies to administer these tests in schools. A lot of money. Is it really helping performance?"

Asked if she was going to just throw money at the problem or if she was concerned with how schools are actually spending the money they are given, she replied;

"We always need to be looking at how money in schools is spent. In Methuen the current city council has been doing that. They are going line by line now and I think that's good for all of us. We should all be doing that."



Newly elected State Rep. Christina Minicucci with Methuen State Rep. Linda Dean Campbell celebrated wins on election night.

Lawrence has a lot of challenges how do you plan on tackling those?

"Most people don't know because it's not really reported (except in the Valley Patriot) but, Lawrence has its lowest level of crime in 35 years."

Lawrence is safer and there are a lot of positive improvements going on in Lawrence. I think it's important to interface with local leaders and find out what their priorities are. I think it's important to look at it from all levels not just going to listen to the mayor and council but hearing from the people who are using local services in Lawrence. Obviously the water infrastructure was a big deal. Public safety is the biggest priority they worry about getting drugs off the street."

I have gone to the different neighborhood meetings in Lawrence; they are very organized, very focused on their area, making sure that they are heard. I listened to what they feel is important, police DPW issues. People are most concerned about infrastructure and public safety."

Right now, obviously most people in Lawrence are concerned about Columbia Gas. There are a lot of people who are nervous about what is going to happen now, will it happen again and when gas is

turned on, will everything work the way it's supposed to, are we safe? I don't think anyone has answered any of those questions yet."

"It's going to be a very long process and I don't think it will be resolved any time soon. This will go on at least until April, then they have to repave all of our roads and sidewalks. That can't be a burden paid for by Lawrence or North Andover, and I sure don't think they should be allowed a rate hike to pay for it which is what I fear they are going to try and pull. There is no way all of this should be put on the users in a rate hike."

There are a lot of people who feel like they have been forgotten. A lot of people still being affected and they feel like they are an afterthought."

"I get asked about Columbia Gas and I get frustrated that I can't be more helpful," she said with a sigh.

"I am happy to finally be on the inside where I will have more access to information to find out what's going on. I want to help when people have questions and I hate when I can't get them the answers. Hopefully, now I can find new pathways to help people be made whole from all of this." ♦

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Fake Liberal Outrage in a Free Society

Ken Willette, Jr.
METHUEN COLUMNIST

As we venture once again into a hotly contested election season, it is also fair to call into question some on the Left who have waged increasingly brazen and bizarre attacks on the motives and speeches of President Trump and many of his supporters. In fact, I am witnessing some liberals casting dangerous accusations, in news articles and in online forums, of direct associations between Trump’s speeches and so-called lone wolf criminals and despised hate groups. Some of these liberal thinkers have freely associated Trump and the people who attend his rallies with the absolute evil of Neo-Nazis and members of the KKK. They repeatedly claim his speeches somehow rouse hatred against citizens of our multicultural nation, suggest antidemocratic and fascist leanings and encourage acts of mass violence. All of which couldn’t be further from the truth.

So let’s explore the importance of celebrating free speech in an age of social media and the rapid response news cycle. First of all, if we really discern Trump’s speeches, at no time has he advocated direct gun violence against his opponents or urged his supporters to conduct mob violence. Trump can be guilty of perhaps being crass at times. But his rallies are hugely popular events, filling entire professional sports arenas, with an overflow crowd of thousands watching on jumbo screens outside. They often chant “CNN

Sucks” and “Lock Her Up”. Some liberals would have you think that these chants alone will inevitably cause the destruction of the free media, the downfall of democracy and the rise of far-right Stormtroopers. I kid you not, they actually engage in that level of historical exaggeration! Even though many African-Americans, Latinos and Asians attend his rallies, the GOP has a strong slate of multicultural candidates and Trump has the strongest pro-Israel record of any president since maybe Truman.

I don’t understand what the inherent problem is. For example, if we chant “Yankees Suck” at a Red Sox game, does that mean we are inciting violence against the Yankees organization or its fans? Of course not! The same thing applies to a WWE event where the crowd chants-- “You Suck”. Trump thrives in a celebrity driven media environment. But the media chime in about shadow thugs, mob rule, and hate speech. They are really missing the point of our constitutional system—people are peacefully assembling, listening to a freely elected leader, and exercising their first amendment rights! And unlike Antifa’s actual thugs operating in the streets across the country, there are no masks, no violence directed against innocent civilians, no destruction of property and no widespread fights. Just freedom! Hundreds of thousands of people have attended these rallies since 2016, but the biased media will still showcase isolated footage of fights from two years ago (with

LIBERALS: PAGE 15

Methuen Police Dept. Animal Control Officers Celebrate Graduation

METHUEN -- Two members of the Methuen Police Department recently graduated from the Animal Control Officers of Massachusetts Academy (ACOM).

Animal Inspector and ACO Renee Falardeau and ACO Miguel Reyes both graduated from the academy at a ceremony on Friday, Oct. 19th.

During the intensive 13-week program, Falardeau and Reyes completed coursework related to animal laws, investigation of animal cruelty and neglect, animal capture and restraint techniques, courtroom procedures and proper techniques of handling evidence. Both also earned certification in animal CPR and first aid.

Falardeau is a full-time ACO and animal inspector with the Methuen Police Department. Before joining the Methuen Police last fall, ACO Falardeau worked for the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) for 18 years.

“I commend Officer Falardeau and Officer Reyes for their successful completion of such a rigorous and challenging program,” Chief Solomon said. “They’ve both shown a sustained commitment to the



welfare of animals, and I have no doubt that they’ll only enhance their level of service to our community going forward.”

Reyes joined the Methuen Police Department as a part-time animal control officer in January. He was born in Boston and grew up in Lawrence and is eager to serve the city in his role. ♦

Saba Shows True Leadership on Police Superiors

By D.J. Deeb
METHUEN EDUCATION COLUMNIST

By D.J. Deeb

Methuen City Councilor Steve Saba has shown true leadership in dealing with the outrageous Methuen Police Superior Contracts these last few months. In leading the charge, along with fellow City Councilor Jim McCarty, Councilor Saba proposed a reorganization that would have eliminated the Captain positions and maintained a necessary number of police patrolmen to keep our streets and city safe. Unfortunately, a majority of the City Council (excluding Councilors Jen Kannan and Lynn Vidler who reclused themselves from the votes due to family conflicts) have been complacent in supporting the Memorandum of Understanding [MOU] that has resulted in 24% and 18% raises for five Methuen Police captains while resulting in a \$1.8 Million deficit for the Methuen Police Department. The Council voted 5-2 against reorganizing the Police Department and eliminating the captains. This was disgraceful and fiscally irresponsible.

After months of complaining and pretending to support the taxpayers of Methuen, a majority of the City Council have turned their backs in complacency to support outrageous raises for the Methuen Police Captains at the expense of Police Patrolmen and the taxpayers. I disagree with Valley Patriot Editor Tom Duggan’s assertion that the Saba/McCarty Plan for reorganization is “shameful beyond reason.” The fact remains that the Police Superior

Contracts were deceptive and not negotiated in good faith. Just read the contracts. You need to be an accountant to understand the language.

Police Superior Union President and Captain Greg Gallant recently appeared on a show with Loop Weekly Publisher Tim Wood. On the show he attempted to justify the increases being given to the captains. Watching him was like watching a used car salesman give his pitch. No one is buying it and no one is fooled by his arguments. The fact remains that there are currently 24 superior officers for just 71 Methuen patrolmen.

In his October 2018 editorial, Publisher Tom Duggan wrote, “Let HIS [Saba’s] family wait. In fact, what I said was ‘Lay off the cops who work in his neighborhood so that GOD FORBID Steve Saba’s wife is getting raped it is his family waiting for police to respond, not the innocent people of Methuen...’”

This is a low blow. These comments are deeply offensive and have no place in public discourse.

Methuen Police Chief Joe Solomon was asked to present his own re-organization plan for 6 months and he failed to deliver. Instead of showing leadership and presenting a viable alternative plan that would prevent the layoffs of police patrolmen, Chief Joe Solomon chose to defend the superiors and stick it to the taxpayers and residents of Methuen as well as the patrolmen.

In frustration and trying to be pro-active,

SABA: PAGE 11

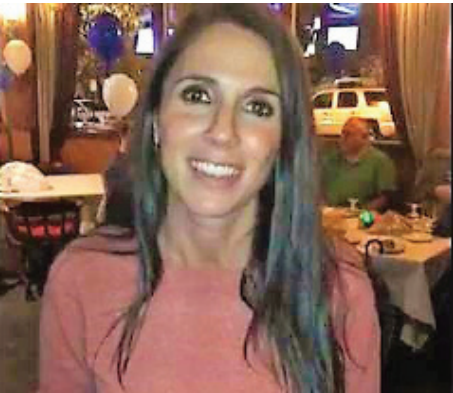
DiZoglio Ascends to State Senate Wins with 66% of the Vote

It wasn’t even close on election day as Methuen State Representative Diana DiZoglio won a seat in the Massachusetts State Senate, defeating her Republican opponent with 66% of the vote.

DiZoglio has been an outspoken advocate for new solutions to the opioid crisis and in the House of Representatives has been out front trying to hold Columbia Gas accountable for the explosions that took place in Methuen, Andover, and North Andover in September.

Celebrating with a small group of friends and supporters at Maria’s Restaurant in Haverhill on election night, DiZoglio said that she was looking forward to getting to work in the Senate and now that her district includes so many more cities and towns, she wants to make sure she meets with local officials in those communities to understand their priorities.

“My first priority is to get to work and getting to know all the people in the communities that I haven’t yet had the opportunity to represent. I want to hear from you. I want to hear your concerns, what’s important to you. It’s very important to me as a state senator to have my finger on the



pulse of what’s happening in each community so that I can best represent you in the senate. In the coming weeks, please feel free to reach out to me, give me a call, shoot me an email, let’s talk, let’s connect, let’s get to know one another that’s my first priority.”

Attending the victory party was Methuen School Committee members Jana DiNatale, Jana Pesche, Methuen City Councilor Jessica Finocchiaro, Haverhill City Councilors Jordan and Bevilacqua, North Andover Selectman Phil DeColo-gero (who worked on her campaign), and State Representative Andy Vargas. ♦

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and North Andover.*



*Mike Gagliardi, President
Laborer's Union Local 175*

Audit Leads to Improved Reporting of Instances of Elder Abuse

Audit found seven instances of serious abuse or neglect of seniors not reported to district attorneys

After a report by State Auditor Suzanne M. Bump found the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) and its contractors did not always properly report serious incidents of abuse or neglect of seniors to local district attorneys, the agency reports that it is taking steps to address the problem. Bump’s audit reviewed the agency’s process for screening, investigating, documenting, and reporting incidents of elder abuse. It examined the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017.

In the audit, Bump notes that 7 of the 190 incidents of alleged elder abuse reviewed by her staff were not reported by agency contractors to district attorneys’ offices for investigation and possible prosecution. These incidents included bed sores, serious neglect, and emotional abuse. State regulations require that serious incidents of abuse or neglect be reported to district attorneys immediately if they result in the death of a senior and within 48 hours if they do not result in death.

The audit also calls for improvements to the agency’s process of documenting reports of abuse in its database and its security protocols governing access to that database.

“All incidents of abuse and neglect of seniors must be taken seriously and if appropriate reported to prosecutors for a full investigation and possible criminal prosecution. I’m heartened by the response of the Office of Elder Affairs to our findings and its commitment to implementing our recommendations,” Bump said of the audit findings. “This audit will help keep seniors safe by strengthening relationships between the agency, its contractors and local district attorneys, and improving oversight to ensure reports of abuse are properly handled.”

In its response, which is included in the audit, EOEA reports that it is taking action to address the deficiencies identified by Bump. These steps include:

- Ensuring more regular communication with district attorneys regarding referrals of incidents of abuse and neglect;
- Improved training for agency contractors tasked with investigating and reporting incidents of abuse or neglect;
- Enhanced oversight of agency contractors to ensure reports of serious abuse or neglect are reported properly to district attorneys;
- Implementation of a quality assurance process and training for documentation

and investigation of reports of abuse or neglect; and

- Improved security protections for its Adult Protective Services database.

Additionally, Bump calls on the agency to work with the Legislature to extend the time period that the agency must retain records related to unsubstantiated reports of abuse or neglect. Under current practice, EOEA removes unsubstantiated allegations of abuse or neglect and associated documentation from its computer systems one year and one day after the report is determined to be unsubstantiated. State law requires this personally identifiable information related to unsubstantiated reports be destroyed or removed within three years. The audit notes that this could create a risk that allegations of serious abuse could be removed from the agency’s database because it is determined to be unsubstantiated, when in fact the report could have warranted an investigation. It also notes that this could hinder the agency’s ability to identify repeat offenders or victims.

The Executive Office of Elder Affairs seeks to promote the independence, empowerment, and well-being of older adults, individuals with disabilities,

and their caregivers. It contracts with 20 protective-service agencies (PSAs) throughout the Commonwealth to assist in receiving and investigating reports of alleged elder abuse. During the two year audit period, EOEA received annual appropriations of approximately \$8.2 billion.

The audit of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs is available here.

About the Office of the State Auditor

The Office of the State Auditor conducts performance audits of state government’s programs, departments, agencies, authorities, contracts, and vendors. With its reports, the OSA issues recommendations to improve accountability, efficiency, and transparency. The OSA has identified approximately \$1.3 billion in unallowable, questionable, or potentially fraudulent spending and saving opportunities for the Commonwealth since 2011. Last year, auditees report implementation of 92 percent of the OSA’s audit recommendations. The office received the Einhorn-Gary Award for its success furthering government accountability and the highest possible rating on its peer review, which was conducted by the National State Auditor’s Association.

KHASHOGGI FROM PAGE 2

online the information about his connections to Osama Bin Laden, his membership and vocal advocacy of the Muslim Brotherhood (a terrorist organization that gave birth to Hamas and eventually Al Qaeda).

We who believe in freedom of choice can say that the man had all the right to believe that the ideal world would be one under the rule of an Islamic Caliphate. He even had the right to advocate for terrorist movements. We, in turn, have the right to say that his beliefs are antithetical to ours and utterly unacceptable. I like my western freedoms, thank you very much. This does not make me an islamophobe, it makes me a Westerner who values freedom of choice, religion and human rights over the oppressive lifestyle imposed by Islamists.

Considering that I am also a Jew, my choice is doubly crucial for my survival.

So, if Khashoggi is a bad guy, what about the Saudis? Anyone that commits murder is certainly not “good”. Dealing with political enemies by chopping them into pieces is not “good”. Mohammad Bin Salman, Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, has disappeared members of his own (extended) family who were in his way. They usually don’t die but go on extended “vacations” they can’t return from...

What’s Khashoggi in comparison to family loyalties, particularly in a tribal society like Saudi Arabia?

Shocking? It seems difficult for many to wrap their minds around the idea that there are not necessarily any “good guys”. The reality is that in the Middle East (and in all dictatorial countries), disappearing political enemies is standard practice. Murder, torture and abuse is common. In the history of humankind, freedom and democracy are an aberration, not the norm.

This is also true for Turkey. The sudden demand for justice for Khashoggi is laughable in the face of Erdoğan’s own abuse of human rights, jailing of journalists and disappearance of political adversaries.

The victim was an avid Islamist and terrorist sympathizer. The perpetrator is a dictatorial abusive regime. The country crying out in shock and outrage for what occurred on their soil has no better a track record.

None of these are “good guys”. Hypocritical media

Why did this story get so much media attention?

Did you see them make the same fuss for Daniel Pearl (kidnapped and murdered for being Jewish) or James Foley (kid-

napped and murdered by ISIS for being American)? Has the media focused similar amount of time on the Yazidi genocide (by ISIS)? The oppression in Iran? The slave trade in Libya? No? Why?

Why did the media first uphold Mohammad Bin Salman as some great reformer democratizing Saudi Arabia and now try to push for his removal? Why did the media so enthusiastically embrace known avid terrorist sympathizer, a member of a terrorist organization himself, as an innocent journalist?

Why is there a huge push for America to impose sanctions on Saudi Arabia when the same people violently resisted sanctions on Iran? Why the demand to dissolve the \$110 billion dollar arms deal Trump made with the Saudis? What lies in the balance? Prosperity and jobs for more Americans and arms for the Saudis to protect themselves from Iran vs some sudden awakening that the Saudi government is not democratic and doesn’t care about human rights?

Even without knowing all the details behind these obviously contradictory positions, they raise more questions than answers. That is the point when it is time to begin asking: who benefits from this narrative? What agenda is being furthered by this type of reporting?

Just as an aside - Mohammad Bin Salman did make changes in his country, easing up on some restrictions (such as allowing women to drive) but these have

nothing to do with democracy. They are the decisions of one man in power, creating a strategic balance to maintain content among the people, especially the young and retain his power.

Not my circus, not my monkeys

As an Israeli I can look at this story from a distance and say – thank God, for once, this is not our circus, not our monkeys. This story isn’t about Israel. It’s not about Jews. It’s not America’s or Europe’s either. This is a story about Islamism and the internal war within Islam. It’s about dictators and the way things are done in places that are not free.

So why should this matter to you?

It matters because the media is supposed to be about facts, not narrative and if you are being fed a narrative you should know what it is and what it is trying to achieve.

It matters because you should know where the best interests of your country lie and support those – even if they don’t fit in with the current narrative.

It matters because history teaches us that nation building does not work and when Middle Eastern countries are destabilized the circus does not stay “over there,” the monkeys stop being amusing and become very dangerous.

<https://carolineglick.com/khashoggi-affair-endangers-americas-core-interests-in-the-middle-east/>

<http://elderofziyon.blogspot.com/2018/10/jamal-khashoggi-washington-posts.html> ◇

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Is Dracut Ready to Go to Pot?

Brian Genest
VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT COLUMNIST

Ready or not, here comes the weed. A company that wants to run a recreational marijuana dispensary in Dracut unveiled its plan at a community outreach meeting in town last month. GreenStar Herbals is expected to open the business on Pleasant Street, if granted a special permit by the board of selectmen.

Company officials offered residents and town officials an overview of the proposed business, including its security plan and other details. The community outreach meeting is just the latest development, as weed-related businesses get fired up across the state, including right here in Dracut.

In June, in anticipation of the state law going into effect, town meeting passed three articles related to marijuana – one outlining boundaries for marijuana establishments, one restricting retail marijuana establishments to the industrial zone and one imposing a 3-percent excise tax on retail sales of marijuana. In April, the board of selectmen authorized Town Manager Jim Duggan to hire a special town counsel to handle cannabis projects, if needed.

The path was blazed for retail marijuana businesses in town last year, after town meeting narrowly rejected a temporary moratorium on retail sales. The moratorium would have included dispensing, processing and cultivation activities, as well as the sale, storage and distribution of marijuana for non-medical use.

Now, I don't want to kill anyone's buzz, but I do have a few questions:

- * Is it OK to giggle like a stoned teenager when the proposed establishment is described as a "high"-end boutique?
- * Who's going to worry about security

outside the establishment, like on the roads all over town, where this recreational weed is likely going to end up? (Take a walk on Lakeview Avenue any day of the week right now and you already smell the weed smoke pouring out of cars passing by!)

- * Is it just a coincidence that a former town building inspector is co-owner of the proposed location? If so, is it due to a small industrial zone, a small world or both?
- * Will jokers, smokers and midnight tokers be getting their loving on the run? (And will they be getting it in our town?) I know, I know, they sure don't want to hurt no one...
- * Why is the town only able to tax retail weed sales at 3%, while the state is able to collect a 6.25% sales tax and a 10.75% excise tax on it? Whatever, man...
- * Are Cheech and Chong movies available on Hulu?
- * Will there be a shortage of "high-end" snacks in town, including upscale Cool Ranch Doritos, swanky Peanut M&Ms and oh-so-chic Oreo cookies?
- * What could possibly go wrong? I'm guessing everything. Call me paranoid.

Brian Genest is chairman of the Dracut Republican Town Committee. A marketing and communications expert with 20 years of success driving growth, maximizing ROI and boosting profits for consumer and high-tech brands, he has developed and executed strategic initiatives for a range of disruptive technologies, including robots, mobile commerce solutions and SaaS products. Earlier in his career, Genest worked as a newspaper reporter and editor for the Dracut Dispatch, Derry News and Billerica Minuteman. ♦



Methuen Chief on the Cover of Time Magazine

METHUEN — Chief Joseph Solomon was recently included as one of more than 200 people from across the country featured in a "Time" Magazine story exploring guns in America.

In the multimedia feature, Chief Solomon advocates for responsible gun ownership, but emphasizes that much of what he's encountered in his 32 years in law enforcement has represented irresponsible behavior.

"It just breaks your heart when you start to see the use of the guns in ways they weren't intended, for just strictly violence rather than hunting or self-defense," Chief Solomon said.

In the piece, Chief Solomon added that he doesn't believe there's any reason why licensed, trained, law-abiding citizens shouldn't be allowed to exercise their right to gun ownership.

He also expressed concern about the idea of arming teachers to protect students

in schools, adding that so-called "guardians" could find themselves in danger if officers responding to an active shooter call, encounter an armed civilian.

"The debate needs to continue and it really needs to be heartfelt," Chief Solomon said of the nation's conversation on guns, noting that the conversation has been taken to extremes that are unsustainable.

"I really think everything needs to come back to the basics. We've got to get back into the middle."

Chief Solomon was featured alongside elected officials from all levels from around the country, as well as gun rights advocates, religious leaders, anti-gun activists and others.

"This is a complex topic that requires thoughtful consideration and discussion in order to ensure that people's safety and rights are both protected." ♦



SABA: FROM PAGE 6

Councilors Saba and McCarty presented their own plan and it makes perfect fiscal sense. This plan would have closed the \$1.8 Million budget gap and prevented patrolmen layoffs. The fact remains that some neighboring communities, including North Andover, do not have police captains. We do not need them either and certainly not at the salaries that they are demanding. Under the currently-funded MOU the police captains are earning base salaries of \$188,206. This is ridiculous! We could add 3 patrolmen for each captain that is eliminated and we certainly should look at adding more patrolmen to help the City of Methuen address crime and opioid abuse.

By failing to act, 25 patrolmen may be pink slipped. In addressing the MOU, Captain Greg Gallant recently stated, "We're going to stand strong." The Methuen City Council election is only 11 months away. Methuen citizens and residents are angry and mobilizing. It is time to DRAIN THE SWAMP in Methuen and hold the City Council accountable. We will be sure to take to social media and the press to remind

people what has transpired here come election time. Methuen taxpayers will "stand strong" come election time!

On another note, the Methuen School Committee has voted to contract the services of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees to conduct a thorough search for the next Superintendent of Schools. This process will include input from all of the stakeholders, including parents, teachers, administrators, and the taxpayers of Methuen. This process will take 3-4 months. More on this to come.

D.J. Deeb is a Methuen resident and Secretary of the Methuen School Committee. Deeb is an Adjunct Professor of History/Government at Bunker Hill Community College and an Adjunct Political Science Instructor at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Deeb also serves as Social Studies Department Chair at Notre Dame High School in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He is the author of Israel, Palestine, and the Quest for Middle East Peace (University Press, 2013) and The Collapse of Middle East Peace (IUniverse, 2003). ♦

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AMICI'S PIZZA NORTH ANDOVER MOVES TO FIRST STREET

Well, I'm sure it wasn't easy given the gas outage downtown in North Andover but Leo from Amici's pizza on Waverly Road has moved his operation to the former Star Pizza building on First Street. Amici's opened at their new location last week. We want to encourage our readers to stop by or call 978-725-9939 for a delivery to help them out after taking such a big hit from the Columbia Gas disaster.

NORTH ANDOVER MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION TO GET 30% DISCOUNT ON ADVERTISING

Members of the North Andover Merchants Association (NAMA) put on the downtown farmer's market in the summer, sponsor the fall festival and sheep shearing, and raise money for scholarships. During the gas outage in North Andover many businesses have taken a huge hit, so The Valley Patriot would like to help. Any business that is a member of NAMA can take advantage of a 30% discount on all advertising if they commit for three months. We will even throw in free color. We want to encourage our readers to spend your money locally on businesses that were affected by the Columbia Gas disaster like Chama Grill, Amici's Pizza, and Wine Connexions. Shop locally and help the local economy recover from this disaster.

VOTERS LAUGH OFF FAKE SHIVA CAMPAIGN FOR U.S. SENATE

The campaign of Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai for US Senate as an independent candidate against Elizabeth Warren and Geoff Diehl was a farce on its best day. Ayyadurai ran a dog and pony show type of campaign with people like Frank Licatta pushing out fake social media posts from fake social media accounts. Ayyadurai's campaign had one function, to help Elizabeth Warren win re-election by siphoning luring right wing, conservative Massachusetts voters away from the Republican campaign of Geoff Diehl. While he never legitimately polled any higher than 10%, Ayyadurai sent out a press release before the election claiming: "Ayyadurai Leads Elizabeth Warren by 11 Points in Latest Suffolk University Poll".

Ayyadurai was obviously never 11 points ahead of anyone in this senate campaign, from the minute he entered the race he never had a chance of getting more than 5% of the vote. His campaign strategy was a series of juvenile gimmicks Ayyadurai put up signs of his image with an American Indian headdress to mock Senator Warren's claim of having Native American History. He pretended to have a "Free Speech Rally" on Boston Common which was really a rally for left wing causes even though he portrayed himself as a right wing libertarian. Add to that, he and his campaign targeted Republican,

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK



Dave Garofalo owner of Two Guys Smoke Shop and Studio 21 Podcast Cafe in Salem NH appeared with Tom Duggan to show support last month after being "warned" by people close to Methuen City Councilor Steve Saba to take the Paying Attention Podcast off the air. You can subscribe to the Paying Attention Podcast on Podbean, iTunes, Spotify, GooglePlay, and YouTube. You can watch the show live on Tom Duggan's Facebook Page every Thursday at 2pm.

Geoff Diehl with a sophomoric misinformation campaign claiming Diehl photo shopped a picture of him shaking President Trump's hand, and harassing reporters who were not willing to publish some of the fake news being pushed out by Licatta and company.

At the end of the day, for all the bluster and bullying, childish political games, and a deception on the voters about his own legitimacy as a candidate, Ayyadurai received a whopping 3.4% of the vote on Election Day. That's a far cry from being 11 points ahead of Elizabeth Warren who won with more than 60% of the vote.

U.S. SENATE – ELIZABETH WARREN VS. GEOFF DIEHL

Senator Elizabeth Warren defeated Republican Geoff Diehl 60% to 36% with Ayyadurai garnering only 3.4%. Warren has already said she is exploring a run for president. I certainly hope she plans on stepping down as a senator if she decides to run for the White House. It's clear she doesn't want to be a senator anyway.

ANDOVER TAKES A HARD TURN LEFT LYONS DEFEATED IN ANDOVER

While incumbent elected officials get re-elected more than 95% of the time, ultra conservative Andover State Rep. Jim Lyons was defeated this month by ultra-

leftist Tram Nguyen. Lyons supported a border wall, deporting illegal aliens, is pro-life, and lowering taxes. Nguyen is for letting illegal aliens stay in the country, giving the government benefits, is pro-abortion, and for raising taxes. You couldn't find two candidates who were more polar opposite.

CONGRESS - GREEN VS TRAHAN

Like most democrats in Massachusetts Laurie Trahan defeated her republican opponent Rick Green 62% to 33% Trahan replaces outgoing congressman Niki Tson-gas of Lowell.

TRIBUNE CALLS CAMPBELL OP-PONENT ANAND GONZALVEZ A "TOKEN CANDIDATE"

I'm not sure exactly what the Eagle Tri-bune was thinking when they called Anand Gonzalvez a "token candidate" but given that he was the only minority running in Methuen it certainly makes you wonder. Anand lost to Campbell by a 60-30 margin, which was roughly the same percentage gap as most races this year. Gonzalvez was a serious candidate and should have been taken more seriously by Trib.

DEMOCRATS TAKE THE HOUSE IN D.C.

While Republicans control the executive branch of the federal government (the White House) and the United States Senate, the Democrats

took control of the House of Representa-tives. With a divided federal government in D.C. one of two things is bound to happen. Either Democrats and Republi-cans will continue with partisan bickering, name calling, endless investigations and petty accusations OR they will finally work together, compromise, come up with solutions and get something done for the American people. I'm not holding my breath hoping for the best, but stranger things have happened.

ALL THE POLLS WERE WRONG

Just like when President Trump was elected in 2016, almost all of the opin-ion and favorability polls predicting the outcomes of this month's election were wrong. Whenever I turn on CNN and they lead off with a report on an opinion or popularity "poll" the one thing I know for sure is that whatever they say after that is a total fabrication designed to make vot-ers believe what the media wants them to believe. Polls and studies are only as good as the bias of the people conducting them. Remember that the next time you watch the news.

NONE OF THESE PEOPLE ACTU-ALLY BELIEVE IN ANYTHING

I constantly talk on my podcast about how national politicians rarely, if ever, believe their own partisan rhetoric. Take as just one example United States Sena-tor Elizabeth Warren. A little more than a year ago Warren called for the resigna-tion of Attorney General Jeff Sessions. She tweeted about it in June of 2017. But it was a totally different story this month when Warren tweeted that the resignation of Sessions was a "constitutional crisis".

Elizabeth Warren @SenWarren

As our top law enforcement officer, the AG must be truthful and uphold the law. Sessions cannot continue to serve. He should resign.

6/13/17, 3:30 PM

Elizabeth Warren @SenWarren

.@realDonaldTrump's firing of Jeff Sessions brings us one step closer to a constitutional crisis. Congress must act to ensure that Special Counsel Mueller can do his job without interference.

11/7/18, 1:32 PM

HUGE BARN SALE
Kensington, NH – The Carriage Barn is holding a HUGE Barn Sale on Saturday, November 17th from 9am to 4pm at its

CONTINUED UNDER FREDDIE



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FREDDIE SAYS

I hear there are still missing cats from the Columbia Gas Disaster... I will help you look for them!

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Freddie also Says
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978-557-8601

location, 10 Trundle Bed Lane, Kensington, NH.

The sale will include all sorts of equine related items: Blankets, sheets, saddles, tack, horse drawn vehicles. There will be a large selection of riding & driving apparel: Boots, gloves, breeches, tops, show coats. General barn related items will include tools and supplies. Bring your wish lists. There are hundreds of styles & sizes to choose from!

A bake table will be available. All sale proceeds benefit The Carriage Barn’s mission to promote the health and well-being of individuals of all ages with disabilities through equine activities. The Carriage Barn is a 501c3 Not-for-Profit Organization, as well as a member center of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship, International.

For more information, please contact The Carriage Barn at info.carriagebarn@comcast.net or 603-378-0140.

NORTHEAST MASS YOUTH ORHES-TRA BENEFIT CONCERT

The Northeast Massachusetts Youth Orchestras present the annual Thanksgiving Basket Benefit Concert on Sunday, November 18th, at 3pm at the First Church of Ipswich, Meeting House Green, Ipswich, MA. The public is invited to this annual event which benefits the Thanksgiving Food Baskets distributed to families in need. Performances by NMYO’s Intermezzo Orchestra, Prelude String Ensemble, Overture String Ensemble, and Flute Choir are featured. This family-friendly concert is a great way to

expose children to classical music while teaching them about helping neighbors in the community. Presented in collaboration with the First Church, a suggested \$5 cash donation will be collected with all proceeds being donated to the Thanksgiving Basket project.

The First Church of Ipswich is located at One Meeting House Green, Ipswich, MA. This concert is open to the public and all are welcome. This concert is sponsored in part by the Demoulas Foundation, Nathaniel and Elizabeth P. Stevens Foundation, Coburn Charitable Society, and Ipswich Cultural Council. NMYO’s Season Sponsors are Cape Ann Savings Bank, Carriage House Violins of Johnson String Instrument, Institution for Savings, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

The regular rehearsal and concert schedule is supplemented with master classes, enrichment days, chamber music coaching, community service outreach concerts to underserved populations, and a composer in residence program. You too can join NMYO! Rehearsals are held weekly just off I-95 and Route 1 in Topsfield/Boxford. NMYO is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. LEARN MORE – nmyo.org · info@nmyo.org · 978-309-9833

REPRESENTATIVE FRANK A. MORAN ANNOUNCES \$32K IN WORK-FORCE TRAINING GRANTS FOR FIVE STAR PLANTING AND CYBER-GRANTS

State Representative Frank A. Moran (D-Lawrence, Andover and Methuen) announced the awarding of two Workforce Development grants to Lawrence’s Five Star Planting and CyberGrants in Andover. These state grants will be provided through the Workforce Training Fund which helps companies improve productivity and competitiveness by providing resources to invest in the Massachusetts workforce. This initiative supports the upgrading of skills programs for small business employees, thus enhancing the competitiveness and economic viability of small businesses around the Commonwealth.

* CyberGrants was awarded \$246,400 to train 108 employees and anticipates adding 16 jobs by 2020

* Five Star Planting was awarded \$74,000 to train 28 employees and anticipates adding 5 jobs by 2020

“These Workforce Training Grants have consistently benefited vital businesses in our community and around the Commonwealth. Thank you to Governor Baker, Lt. Governor Polito, and Secretary Acosta for prioritizing organizations in our district to help keep us on the cutting edge of a number of key industries,” said Representative Moran.

The Workforce Training Fund is a powerful tool to create new jobs, increase skills and opportunities for our workers, and maintain the economic strength and viability of our community. In the past year, the 165 employers who completed training initiatives through this program

collectively added new jobs at a rate of 11.9% compared to the statewide average of 3.8%.

GAS RESTORATION UPDATE FROM TOWN OF ANDOVER

Restoration Timeline

The “House Ready” process is expected to be completed between Dec. 2 and Dec. 16, and a Rapid Re-light process has been implemented that will result in gas service being restored ahead of Dec. 2.

Gas service has been restored to 55 percent of businesses and 37 percent of residential gas customers in Andover, North Andover and Lawrence who lost service in the crisis that began on Sept. 13.

As of Thursday, Nov.8th, 48 percent of all Andover residents who lost gas service have had their service restored. Fifteen more Andover businesses had service restored on Tuesday. This means that 59 percent of 127 of the 217 commercial gas customers in the affected area have now had their service restored. However, 90 Andover businesses remain without gas service.

Columbia Gas releases a daily briefing with updates on the progress of the restoration effort. Hot water heaters, stoves and dryers will be replaced and boilers and furnaces will be safely repaired or replaced with those being repaired eventually being replaced beginning in the spring.

Appliance Disposal

The disposal of condemned or replaced appliances is part of the recovery and restoration process. Your appliances will be removed and picked up by Columbia Gas or its contractors. Residents and business owners should not endure any cost for disposing of appliances.

Free Parking Downtown

The Town of Andover is not currently collecting parking fees at municipal parking lots. The Town encourages downtown visitors to park in the municipal parking lots. This includes Lot 1 (between Andover Village Square and Caff  Nero), Lot 2 (behind Old Town Hall) and Lot 3 (Park Street Village). This will be evaluated on a weekly basis.

Business Social Media Campaign

Today, a group of town officials, high school students and public relations students from a Northeastern University School of Journalism class took to downtown Andover, visiting more than 30 town businesses and Tweeting with the hashtags #AndoverBiz #WeAreAndover #MVBacktoBusiness.

The students took photos inside each business to call attention to the vibrant and diverse group of shops and service providers who have persevered through the Merrimack Valley Gas Emergency for nearly two months.

You can view some of the results on the Town of Andover Twitter Page.

After the social medial campaign Wednesday afternoon, the volunteers were treated to a free pizza party courtesy of Bertucci’s on Main Street.

Information for Landlords and Tenants

Attorney General Maura Healey’s office has released information for landlords and tenants affected by the Merrimack Valley Gas Emergency, which can be viewed in full here.

As a first step, the Attorney General’s Office encourages landlords and tenants to discuss the situation and work cooperatively to try to resolve issues. Landlords and tenants should discuss what claims each can make with Columbia Gas. For example, landlords should file claims for lost rent with Columbia Gas. Neither landlords nor tenants should suffer any financial loss. Columbia Gas is responsible for all losses caused by the gas explosions.

Tenants and landlords should be aware of their rights, duties, and protections under Massachusetts law. Tenants or landlords who are having problems can call the Attorney General’s Merrimack Valley Hotline at 617-573-5370 for help. Affected residents can request temporary alternative housing by calling Columbia Gas at 1-800-590-5571.

Self Mitigation Information - Columbia Gas has provided information on how residents can expedite the gas disaster mitigation process on their own. For those who decide to go about repairing or replacing their own appliances, there are several steps that the utility has provided for residents interested in doing so. The steps for self mitigation and restoration outlined in the mailer are:

Contact Columbia Gas and make the claims adjuster assigned to your case aware of your intention to self mitigate. Adjusters will walk residents and business owners through the process, including briefing them on the information they’ll need for later reimbursement. The Columbia Gas claims phone number is 1-800-590-5571.

Hire only licensed installers, who must obtain appropriate permits from the Town of Andover in order to complete the work. Work may include pressure testing, repair and replacement of gas lines, extension of outside gas lines, installation of appliances and completion of a town inspection. Once all of that work is completed, gas service may be restored to individual homes. Work with a claims adjuster to purchase replacement equipment and appliances. Columbia Gas will reimburse customers for reasonable replacement costs of like kind and quality appliances, including making payments on their behalf or paying customers back for out-of-pocket costs. Install equipment and appliances, and complete inspection. Once installation is complete, licensed installers will arrange a town inspection. Only work that has been appropriately permitted prior to completion will be eligible for an inspection. Contact Columbia Gas for service restoration. Once inspections are complete, customers will receive either a green “house ready” tag, or an orange “house ready” tag depending on a home’s level of readiness for service restoration. To have service restored following self

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Stay local. Shop locally.

North Andover Merchants Association

Small businesses are the backbone of our local economy. That is why the over-100 members of the North Andover Merchants Association are proud to support each other and our community through working collaboratively and encouraging our friends and neighbors to stay local & shop locally. You can learn more about our local businesses by visiting www.NorthAndoverMerchants.org.



The North Andover Merchants Association has had an incredible 10th year in operation. Thank you everyone for all your hard work. We look forward to working with Businesses and Residents in the coming year.

The terrible issues that arose from the Columbia Gas outages has left many of our downtown and 125 corridor businesses suffering. Money raised at our annual Fall Festival went into the funds to help those affected by the events of Sept. 13, 2018. The Town of North Andover worked with us to find out who was affected and how, kept us abreast of all new developments and how Columbia Gas would be available for assistance. It was a team effort that helped streamline how things got done.

We ask that you help them out by making use of their products and services. Eat at the restaurants, shop at the stores. Stop in to say "Hi!" to owners and employees at those affected vendors. It has been worrisome for many not knowing when they would be able to re-open. Seeing the friendly faces of residents and out of town shoppers will make their day.

With the holiday season right around the corner, we would like to remind you that much of what you need for gift giving and entertaining can be found right here in our beautiful Town of North Andover.

Don't Forget: Nov. 24 is **SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY!!!!**



This holiday season, join us in North Andover!

North Andover Merchants Association

Our town's Annual Santa Parade is on Saturday 11/24

The parade kicks off from North Andover Middle School at 12:00pm and travels along Main Street.



Gas Contractor Feeney Brothers Thrown Out of Lawrence and Andover

Allowed to Do Gas Work in North Andover, Police Called on Feeney For Doing Illegal Work in Lawrence

RIVERA THROWS FEENEY OUT OF LAWRENCE

Despite denying responsibility for the gas explosions in the Greater Lawrence area on September 13th, and an NTSB (National Transportation Safety Board) preliminary report saying that sub-contractor Feeney Brothers may not have been totally responsible, Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera has thrown Feeney Brothers out of Lawrence during the restoration process.

Feeney Brothers is a Dorchester located construction sub-contractor that was working for Columbia Gas on Salem Street in Lawrence the day of the gas explosions that blew up hundreds of homes and resulted in more than 70 homes catching fire in Andover, North Andover and Lawrence.

Several firefighters were hurt responding to the disasters and one person died in the initial explosion on Chickering Road in Lawrence.

Hundreds of homes in the Merrimack Valley still have no gas service, including Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera who called out Columbia Gas for their absence more than 24 hours after the blasts began.

“Well, first I’m not happy that Columbia Gas blew up my city,” Mayor Rivera told The Valley Patriot. “I’m not happy about the response either.”

“I made it very clear to Columbia Gas this week that I do not want Feeney in Lawrence,” he continued.

“There are too many questions still unanswered and I know that everyone is innocent until proven guilty, but why risk it?”

“We got a request to let them come in and let them do work on the gas lines in the city and I thought, ‘I don’t want anyone questioning the way we are going about restoring service. I don’t want residents seeing Feeney Brothers in the city until the NTSB comes back with a very clear definitive understanding of what’s going on, exactly what happened, and a final conclusion of who blew up my city and how it actually happened. As of right now we don’t have that and I don’t want them here’ he said while

the work was still going on. Rivera said that despite which contractor or subcontractor was responsible for causing the gas explosions, “Columbia Gas is 100% responsible for getting us back to normal and getting people’s homes back to 100% by the 19th of November. That is what we expect and it better be done by then.”

FEENEY DOES LAWRENCE GAS WORK ANYWAY, MAYOR SENDS POLICE

Just days after Mayor Rivera ordered Feeney Brothers out of his city for their role in the gas explosions on September 13th, Valley Patriot news spotters sent us these photos (middle) of Feeney Brothers on Loring Street in Lawrence doing gas work Sunday.

Within minutes of seeing The Valley Patriot’s post of the photos on Facebook, Mayor Dan Rivera said he sent police to the scene with an official cease and desist order and says the city will be issuing a fine to the company.

The fine is between \$300-\$600. ANDOVER THROWS FEENEY BROTHERS OUT OF TOWN FOR SLOWING DOWN WORK, CAUSING PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS

According to sources in the Andover Police Department, Feeney Brothers was thrown out of their town shortly after Mayor Rivera threw them out of Lawrence.

“They were doing what amounts to a work slowdown we assume, to get more overtime, starting their work late to get late shift differentials and when they were told to speed it up they gave officers a hard time,” our sources in Andover said. Andover Police Chief

Patrick E. Keefe did not come right out and say Feeney was expelled from working in their town because of a “work slowdown for overtime” but did say that they were purposely starting work at the end of the work day, bleeding into the night time hours and cited “safety concerns” as the reason Feeney was thrown out.

“The sub-contractor [Feeney] was working in Andover this past week con-



ducting work for the restoration process,” Andover Police Chief O’Keefe said in an email to The Valley Patriot.

“The task they were conducting was at the end of the daily work schedule. The task was taking them an extraordinary long time to finish. This caused day work to bleed over into the night work that was being conducted. This kept detours in places that conflicted with night time detours causing large traffic issues at night in the dark. It became a public safety concern. We spoke to the contractor and informed them we did not want that sub-contractor conducting that work in town again during the restoration process.”

Andover Town Manager Flanagan said in an email to the Valley Patriot that there was no written document given to Feeney or Columbia Gas about the expulsion of Feeney.

NORTH ANDOVER CONTINUED TO USE FEENEY BROTHERS, MAYLOR SAYS HE’S NOT CONCERNED WITH OPTICS OR POLITICS

North Andover Town Manager Andrew Maylor

When contacted about Feeney still doing gas work in North Andover, Town Manager Andrew Maylor initially told The Valley Patriot that Feeney Brother was not doing work on gas lines in town, and that they were only doing paving.

Initially, Maylor said “It didn’t seem to make any sense to have a contractor that had any involvement in what happened but the nature of what they will be doing is only paving, so I have no problem with that.”

The Valley Patriot called gas workers to confirm the information only to learn that Feeney Brothers was indeed doing gas work in North Andover. We called Town Manager Maylor back to ask him about what we had learned.

“Can I get a redo on that,” Maylor asked when we contacted him a second time only minutes after the first call.

Maylor said that after speaking to The Valley Patriot he made some additional phone calls and learned that Feeney actually was doing work on the gas lines in town.

“I stand by my decision on them doing work in North Andover,” he said the second time around.

“I read the NTSB report and that, I think, was the game changer to my original sentiments of not wanting Feeney Brothers here.”

He said he was the one to originally raise the concerns with other elected officials asking if Feeney should work in town before restoration work began.

“That view was supported by people around the table, but that changed for me when preliminary report was released by the NTSB concerning who is responsible for the gas disaster. Residents should know we hired a 3rd party contractor to check the work and safety records of Feeney and that the track record of Feeney has been upheld. We do this for all of the contractors, and if we find they are doing anything unsafe they will be pulled off the job, immediately.”

“My view is that the NTSB report about the involvement of Feeney has been cleared, we are evaluating safety records and we feel like they are one of main contractors, and their involvement in the process is not inappropriate from my perspective. I can worry about optics and politics or I can worry about safety and gas restoration to the citizens of North Andover. I’m not political, as you know, and I’m not taking a political position. I’m taking a practical position. If they can get our gas up by the 19th, that’s what I care about for our residents.”

RIVERA STILL FRUSTRATED
For his part, Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera says he still does not have gas in his home and the people of his city are still suffering. Asked how he was personally dealing with the situation given that he still has no gas himself, Rivera said it has been an ordeal.

“I try to keep my emotions in check about all of this. One of my favorite quotes from General Westmorland is about keeping your head about you while others are losing theirs. I’m frustrated about a lot of things right now. They blew up my city. The people of my city are hurting. I’m hurting, my family is hurting. There are people in harm’s way more than myself and my family, and if I’m not clear headed I’m not good and I’m no good to them. I can’t express enough how upset I am about all of this. We are all over Columbia Gas every day. I know that they are doing all the work they are supposed to be doing now, but that doesn’t change what happened here and that doesn’t make it any easier for us as a city to recover. ◇



ducting their work late to get late shift differentials and when they were told to speed it up they gave officers a hard time,” our sources in Andover said. Andover Police Chief

Patrick E. Keefe did not come right out and say Feeney was expelled from working in their town because of a “work slowdown for overtime” but did say that they were purposely starting work at the end of the work day, bleeding into the night time hours and cited “safety concerns” as the reason Feeney was thrown out.

“The sub-contractor [Feeney] was working in Andover this past week con-

bigger picture. Whether you support or reject the President’s policies and actions, and whether you love or hate his speeches, every indicator across the nation points to massive voter turnout, unheard of for a midterm election, and record enthusiasm between the parties. And tens of millions of voters are engaging in peaceful, articulate, well-reasoned discussions, voting in incredible numbers and contributing to the social media town hall that our founding fathers could never envision.

They merely established the constitutional safeguards to protect people from being judged guilty by association or guilty until proven innocent. It would be wise for some on the Left to do the same! ◇

LIBERALS: FROM PAGE 6

no irrefutable evidence of which party started the fight in the first place). But remember, according to the constant liberal media narrative, Trump’s voters are basically deplorable, racist, xenophobic and uneducated. They couldn’t possibly have a reasonable and rational difference of opinion. They couldn’t possibly be proud of being an immigrant nation, but also be against illegal immigration and seek to stop caravans from entering our nation. At the same time, it is especially hypocritical when liberal media outlets gave a free pass to Madonna who spoke at a protest rally that she dreamed of blowing up the White House. They defended Kathy Griffin who held up a mock severed head of the President. They applauded Maxine Waters for promoting harassment in public places. They largely ignored Eric

Holder’s call to kick opponents in the streets, and Joe Biden’s school bully rants against Trump. I won’t apply their same twisted logic of guilt by association. I won’t cast broad aspersions against all Bernie Sanders supporters because one nearly killed a GOP congressman. I won’t attack all Democrats because one person or persons threw a rock through a GOP House leader’s office window or firebombed a Trump campaign office. I won’t say that Clinton was somehow responsible for Ricin attacks against the White House and the President’s family, because she said we can no longer be civil until they return to power. The truly sad commentary about some liberals is that they are missing the much

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METHUEN DAY A HUGE SUCCESS!





The City of Methuen's 1st Annual Methuen Day celebration went off without a hitch last month drawing hundreds of Methuen residents and families to a day of food, fun and games for kids in downtown Methuen square. Above are newly elected State Senator Diana DiZoglio shivering after getting out of the dunk tank, DiZoglio with members of the Methuen High School Football Team, Methuen Police Chief Joe Solomon and School Committeeman Jana DiNatale, (bottom photo) Chief Solomon with Luis and Valley Patriot Publisher Tom Duggan. Luis dunked Duggan in the dunk tank 13 times, the most times anyone was dunked all day. He also dunked Chief Solomon 8 times. Methuen day was the brainchild of City Councilor Eunice Zeigler who put together a committee and recruited members of the business community and had the assistance of Councilors Jessica Finocchiaro and Ryan Hamilton. Councilor Zeigler said that the event was such a success that she and the Methuen Day Committee are already planning one for next year.



Hero Veteran Tim McCarthy with his copy of The Valley Patriot. McCarthy is one of our most loyal readers.



Linda Buell, President of The Methuen Exchange Club hands a \$500 check to Linda Harvey of Debbie's Treasure Chest, a non-profit which - among other things - gives free toys to underprivileged children at Christmastime.





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Lawrence WWI Veterans the Focus of Tribute Video

Fourth-generation Lawrencian, Marc LaPlante, will discuss the Lawrence World War I Project, during the Tuesday, Nov. 20, White Fund Lecture Series offered in partnership with Northern Essex Community College.

The event is free and open to the public. It will be held at 11 a.m. in Room 301 of the Dr. Ibrahim El-Hefni Allied Health & Technology Center, 414 Common St., Lawrence.

The project spotlights 35 of the 200 Lawrence residents who lost their lives during World War I and were given special recognition by city officials with a bridge, park, square, or building named for them. During WWI, more than 5,500 Lawrence residents either enlisted or drafted into military service.

The stories of the 35 veterans have been lost over the years. LaPlante, a Lawrence city councilor, has rediscovered their stories and shares them through video, which he has written and produced.

LaPlante has traveled to France to honor many of these soldiers and to learn more about the United States' involvement in the "Great War."

He works for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, graduated from law school in 2006 and is a non-practicing attorney. He has served on the City Council more than 13

years representing Tower Hill and South Lawrence East. He lives with his wife and three school-age children in the Colonial Heights section of Lawrence.

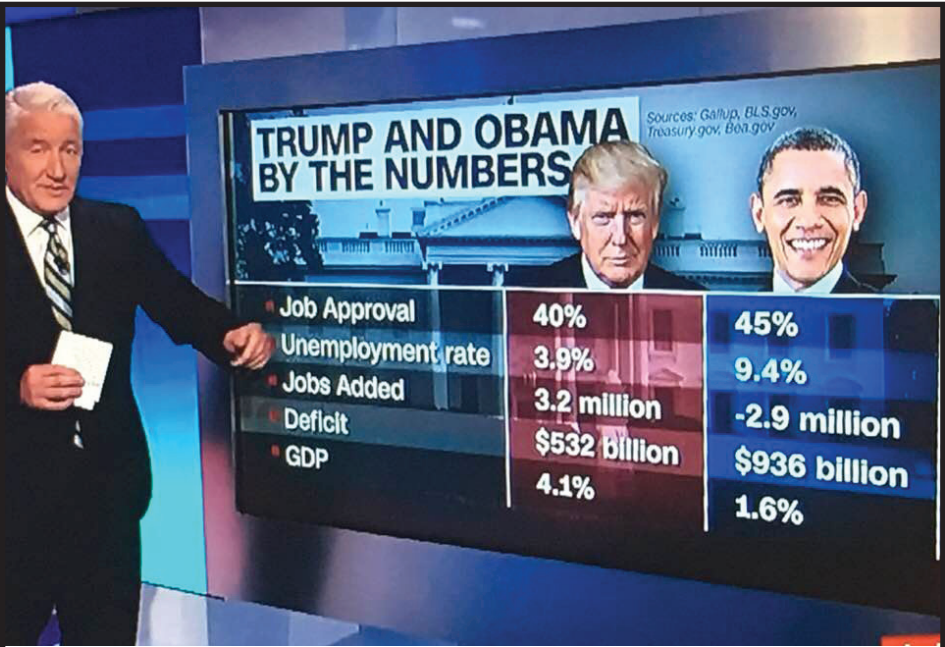
When he is not at work, pursuing city council duties, or involved in family activities, he is an avid beekeeper who also has four egg-laying hens.

The White Fund's purpose is to have a free series of interactive presentations for Lawrence area adults, youth, and children. The audience is encouraged to seek wisdom, cultural enrichment, and intellectual enhancement by attending and participating.

The views expressed in the White Fund Enlightenment Series presentations are the views of the speaker and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of Northern Essex.

Funded by a generous financial gift from the Honorable Daniel Appleton White, the White Fund Lecture Series has provided cultural conversation featuring well-known lecturers in fields such as history, literature, travel, the arts, and politics. The White Fund is collaborating with Northern Essex on this series.

For additional information or to be notified of upcoming events in the White Fund Enlightenment Series, contact Analuz Garcia at agarcia@necc.mass.edu or call 978-738-7423.



Shortly before the election, CNN compared Trump's job numbers with Obama's numbers at the same time in their presidencies.



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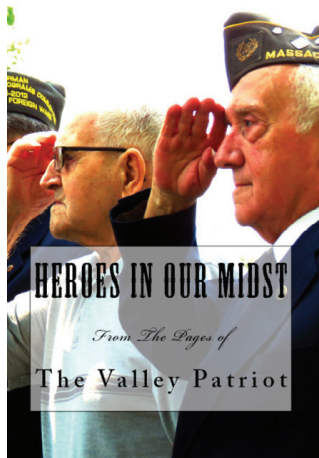
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Francisco Urena

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“Eyewitness To History”

Potential Effects of the Midterm Ballot

Sue Piazza

VALLEY PATRIOT BOOK REVIEWS

Edited by John Carey Avon Books, New York © 1987 by John Carey

Paperback 706 pages, and includes a well-written Introduction, plus Sources, Acknowledgements and an Index of Names.

4.50 Bookmarkers

For those that like history, ancient or modern, this book has something for you. Except for one entry “The Green Children,” the rest of the writings are a compilation of first hand accounts on different subjects from different time periods.

Correspondents, sent to cover events wrote some pieces, while others, like the survivors that were aboard the Titanic, were unintended eyewitnesses.

The slivers of lives start with the 430 B.C./B.C.E. “Plague in Athens” by Thucydides, an Athenian historian and general. This edition of “Eyewitness to History” takes the reader up to the year 1986 with “The Fall of President Marcos, Manila, Philippines, 24-25 February 1986” by James Fenton.

History is often violent, messy; and many of these pieces reflect this. But, if you enjoy reading about the times in which these accounts were written you will not be disappointed.

A Time Magazine writer reported on the My Lai atrocity, the massacre that took place in Vietnam during the war. The raw writing makes one feel that they are there witnessing the sights, screams, military commands, and chaos of war.

Another example of man’s inhumanity is exhibited in “American Slavery: Punishment of a Female Slave, New Orleans, c. 1846” by Samuel Gridley Howe, an educator.

“Every stroke brought away a strip of skin, which clung to the lash, or fell quivering on the pavement, while the blood followed after it.” ... “(G)ash after gash was cut in her living flesh, until it became a livid and bloody mass of raw and quivering muscle.”

We read of the humanity and loyalty of an animal. The little dog hid among the folds of its master, Mary, Queen of Scots, gowns as her severed head lay next to her body.

Though some very short articles comprise only a page or so, their length does not diminish their importance or impact. And, not all the commentaries are a testament to war and calamity.

The birth of a princess, the death of kings and queens and further incidents that shaped our world can be found between the cover of this book.

Additional interesting reads are: “Flaubert and the Dancing Girls: Esna, Egypt, 6 March 1850” by Gustav Flaubert, French novelist and author of “Madame Bovary,” or maybe a you prefer a chance “Dinner with Attila the Hun, c. AD 450”, or a description of “A Viking Funeral,” or a report on “The Irish Potato Famine.”

History is ultimately about people, those individuals that survived to tell the tale. These lives are skillfully documented in this, one of my most treasured books.

Casey Pratt

VALLEY PATRIOT TEEN COLUMNIST

There were three questions on this year’s midterm ballot. My family had been getting letters in the mail, saying what to say yes and no to, there were signs everywhere; everyone seems to have some deep personal reason as to why they leaned one way or the other.

It has been hard to find an impartial source for any information on them though, and if you get your news from Facebook or Twitter you almost certainly will have only heard biased overviews.

Question one on the ballot was and still is a very divisive issue, with nurses on both sides.

This ballot measure would have essentially limited how many patients could be assigned to any one nurse, and also assign patients depending on the type of injury and the level of care needed.

This would have potentially allowed for better patient care, and let nurses focus more on the patients that they were assigned. It also could potentially have opened up nursing as a better job option for those who may be leaning towards going into a medical field, because historically nurses are said to be underpaid and overworked.

The downsides were that it would have cost a lot of money, and many smaller hospitals may have closed down. Also, many professionals who have read the measure said it was badly written.

A similar measure was passed in California, but it happened over a five-year period, and was slightly different and much more lenient in its terms.

The measure did not end up passing in Massachusetts, most likely because it was so unclear as to what the result of it passing would actually be. There were no official predictions on how it would change medical costs or change insurance plans within the state. There were also no predictions on how it would affect the medical field long-term. The lack of clarity about this measure made many hesitant. It will likely be brought up again in a future election, but hopefully more time will be taken to write the measure and research what the best and worst case scenarios are, so that the voting public can be educated before they decide.

Question two was essentially a step towards taking the money out of politics. Although this measure will drastically change the current strategies in politics, there was very little opposition to it. It




will create a bipartisan commission to monitor the political spending in state, and push for a national amendment that regulates campaign financing.

This measure passed as most people on both sides tend to want politics to be left untouched by businesses or other monetary influence.

Question three was attempting to get rid of a law that is already in action in Massachusetts. That law declares a person cannot be discriminated against in public places due to gender identity, and that transgender, non-binary, or genderfluid people can go into the bathroom or locker room of their choice.

Those who petitioned for the opportunity to repeal this law did so because they claimed that the law is ‘ripe for abuse.’ While at a glance this is true, the current law states a person’s claimed gender identity must be evidently a continual and core part of them for them to legally be allowed to use that gender’s bathroom. Any man or woman who breached those laws could be tried, and with evidence from their social media, or testimonies from their acquaintances on their history of gender identity, the issue would hopefully be settled justly.

The law has gone unchanged, which was expected by most. It was originally passed in 2016, and the opinions on that topic have not shifted dramatically in state in the two years that have passed. ◇



Casey Pratt is a painter and photographer, and a bit of an adrenaline junkie. She also excels in English, and hopes to have a career photojournalist. Contact Casey on her Instagram, @acuriousteen

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Sheriff Coppinger Slight of Hand

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Remembering the Dead

Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

Last month I wrote about the lawsuit against Essex Sheriff Kevin Coppinger for not keeping inmates on medicines they already were on outside. Coppinger’s private lawyer has since filed an opposition in federal court that is a classic case of sleight of hand.

Let’s be clear on some basic terms. A scientific study is one that involves informed consent, an independent review board and publication in a medical journal after undergoing peer review by other scientists in the same field with no conflict of interests.

An affidavit is just a piece of paper expressing some person’s individual opinion, even if heartfelt and signed under the pains and penalties of perjury.

An affidavit is NOT a peer reviewed scientific medical study. Clear? Anonymous testimonials are even less.

Let’s apply this to Coppinger’s brief. He begins with a review of basic approaches to treating patients with Opioids Dependence (ICD-10 F11.2) and wends his way through the use of methadone, Suboxone and Vivitrol. This section of his brief cites peer reviewed studies published in medical journals. One would be encouraged initially to read this section.

Coppinger’s arguments support his explicitly-stated exclusive goal: forced abstinence, not medical treatment. First he asserts that it is legitimate to enforce abstinence on patients with Opioids Dependence and that lifelong abstinence is expected from every one. Then he asserts that Vivitrol, which is not an opiate, is as good as Suboxone in preventing relapses once an inmate is released from jail.

This is not a surprise per se: “Methadone and buprenorphine have been shown on a variety of metrics to be far superior

to Vivitrol — that includes safety, effectiveness, and cost,” said Leo Beletsky, a professor of law and public health at Northeastern University who focuses on drug policy. “The reason Vivitrol is preferred is that it’s a medical version of forced abstinence. That is why it’s been the darling of those who rhetorically support medication assisted treatment.”

Coppinger then cites anonymous inmates to assert that providing methadone to inmates with Opioids Dependence will increase chaos and crime: “As recently as August of 2018, inmates in Barnstable County warned about the dangers of opioid treatment in jail (in this case, suboxone), calling it a “horrible idea to introduce into the facility” and one that led to “chaos—fights, gambling, people calling home to their families to try to get money so they could give it to another inmate to get suboxone...” Exhibit G”

So from peer reviewed medical journals we now switch to testimonials from anonymous inmates to support Coppinger’s position. He also adds in affidavits from jail superintendents.

Remember, when you don’t have scientific journal papers to make your case, that forced abstinence is superior or more humane than actual medical treatment, you suddenly rely on anonymous inmate testimonials (!!) as well as affidavits from various folks who express their personal opinions.

Coppinger then reinforces this glaring problem with: “ECSD’s non-opioid MAT program has been so successful that it was recently awarded a three-year \$1.5M grant from the Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to continue with its Vivitrol MAT in the fight against opioid addiction.”

This grant program has been severely

COPPINGER: PAGE 31

Paul Murano
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

November is the month set aside to commemorate the dead. Why is it important to remember those who have gone before us? Because love does not die and the Church sees herself as a family, On All Souls Day we remember the souls who are in need of our intercession as they are prepared for heaven, and on All Saints Day we commemorate the souls that are with God whose prayer and intercession we implore. It is good to pray for the dead (2 Mac 12:45) and for the dead to pray for us (Heb 12:1).

Many religious traditions recognize the survival of the spirit after death. From its beginning Christianity has recognized this truth, and goes one step further: All who die in Christ remain alive in Christ, awaiting the resurrection of the body. Let us go beneath the surface to take a closer look at what this means, and why some people who die in Christ might be in need of prayer and sacrifice to live with Him.

First, one does not have to be religious to conclude that human souls survive bodily death. Ancient philosophers without access to the Judeo-Christian tradition figured this out through human reason alone. The part of us that thinks and wills - that reasons and freely chooses - is not contained in the physical brain. This immaterial component can grasp immaterial objects like concepts, ideas, thoughts, propositions, and arguments. It is a dimension of human nature that rises above physiological instinct and passion to freely choose what is objectively true and good. In short, the operations of intellect and free will transcend bodily functioning and, since it is spiritual, do not decompose like the body.

So, what happens to the spiritual soul that survives bodily death? This is where different religious traditions differ. Some eastern philosophies believe souls transmigrate into other bodies depending on ‘karma’. Others believe they are like drops of water assimilated into a vast ocean of being, demonstrating the nothingness of the self. Still others have held that souls go to a world of forms separate from matter, and some simply worship their dead ancestors as if they were gods.

Since the soul is the spiritual form of the body, none of these beliefs are adequate. The teaching of the Catholic Church is that souls of people who die immediately find themselves face to face with God and are judged. Their eternal destination is then fixed. This is called the particular judgment, and begins what could be called an interim period between

one’s own death and the resurrection of the body on the last day. St. Paul speaks of the faithful departed as those who are ‘asleep’ in Christ. As such, we often use the phrase “Rest in Peace.”

On November 2, All Souls Day is a day dedicated to pray for the souls in purgatory who are going to heaven but are not ready to enter. It is like the child who disobeys his mother and plays in the mud while wearing his formal clothes before a wedding. After contrition and he is forgiven, but he is still not ready to enter the banquet. He first needs to be cleansed to atone for his act, and be purged of all its negative effects on him. This is what purgatory is to the soul: The person is already forgiven, but needs more detachment and purification from sin before entering the eternal banquet.

The Church in heaven and on earth pray for these souls in purgatory, to assist them in their journey en route to heaven. The Church as a family understands herself as one body, the body of Christ, sharing one lifeblood and one purpose. Each cell depends on the others, and the entire body depends on its Head (Christ) for survival. This living body includes three united dimensions: the Church Triumphant (souls in heaven), the Church Suffering (souls in Purgatory), and the Church Militant (those on earth).

Yet, there is still one more group of souls, those who have made their irrevocable choice against God and for self, who are in hell. They are not part of the Body. To complete the analogy, souls in heaven have entered the banquet, those in purgatory have been invited but are not yet ready to enter, and those on earth have been invited and have until the moment of death to respond. Those in hell, however, have rejected the invitation and would rather hang out with demons in the everlasting misery of hell.

November is the month to remember the dead. It is also a month that offers hope for what eye has not seen and ear has not heard, the wonders of what God has in store for those who love Him” (1Cor 2:9).

Paul Murano teaches college and hosts the radio talk show *Beneath the Surface* on WCAP 980 AM, podcasts at <https://archive.org/details/@veritas777>. Paul has graduate degrees in philosophy and theology and is certified in health care ethics. He speaks on topics relating where faith and reason meet. He also plays at local venues as a solo singer-songwriter-musician. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com





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IN THE GROOVE with Cindy Annis

Paul McCartney Part I

Cindy Annis
VALLEY PATRIOT VINYL COLUMNIST

If you looked up, “most successful writer and composer of modern history,” there would possibly be a great picture of Paul McCartney. Yes, probably more successful than even Michael Jackson. Just the one song that he wrote, “Yesterday,” was covered by thousands of artists around the world. I will get into some of his accolades later, but for now, it’s Paul.

Paul’s full name at birth was James Paul McCartney. He was born June 18, 1942, in Liverpool, England. His mom, Mary Patricia (Mohan) worked at the same hospital where she gave birth to Paul, the Walton Hospital in Liverpool, England. James McCartney was his father, but was not there when Paul was born. He was a volunteer firefighter during WWII. There was Michael the younger brother, and the step-sister, Ruth, all residing at 20 Forthlin Road, Allerton, England. All the children were baptized Catholic because this was the faith of Mary; James was a Protestant. Although Catholic, there wasn’t much religion being taught in the household.

Paul’s mom died rather young. Paul was only fourteen and she died of an embolism. She worked as a midwife, and Paul can remember that even with snow covered streets, she would leave at about three in the morning riding her bicycle to her patient’s homes.

Paul’s dad played the trumpet and piano. He was the leader of “Jim Mac’s Jazz Band” in the 1920s. Jim had a piano in the home and tried to get the kids to play and practice. Jim thought Paul should consider taking lessons on the piano as well as voice. Paul just wanted to play by ear, and teach himself the finer points of singing. Jim gave Paul a trumpet for his fourteenth birthday. Paul learned it a little but decided the days of wine and roses was gone and the nights of rock and roll was here. You can’t sing with a trumpet in your mouth! He traded the trumpet for a Zenith, model 17, acoustic guitar. The only problem was he was left handed. Once he saw a poster with left handed Slim Whitman on

the guitar, everything fell into place. Paul reversed the order of the strings on the guitar and he was writing music and songs influenced by rhythm and blues and Little Richard was his school boy musical hero!

Paul went to the local schools and when given the opportunity, he took the same advanced placement test that other Beatles took. He passed the 11+ exam and was able to go onto The Liverpool Institute. Around 1954, Paul met another schoolmate named George Harrison. They became friends, because as Paul tells it, George was a year younger than him so he could talk down to George.

On July 6, 1957, it happened. Paul McCartney and John Lennon met for the first time as John and his band, “The Quarrymen,” were playing in St. Peter’s Church in Woolton. It didn’t take too long before the band asked Paul to join them on rhythm guitar. And as we know, Paul and John hit it off really good.

This is the place where I write that we’re going to bypass “The Quarrymen” and “The Beatles,” because this column is about Paul. I will be looking at the Beatles in a future column. Paul officially left The Beatles on the tenth of April, 1970. Paul kept doing his thing, writing songs and performing. “McCartney” was his first solo release. It hit #1 here in the United States. His wife, Linda, helped out with some minor vocals and Paul did the rest -all the musical instruments and all the singing. If you haven’t listened to this album and are a fan of Paul McCartney, do yourself a huge favor and go get this album. You won’t be sorry!!

Paul’s second album was called “Ram.” Linda worked with him on this, and Paul got drummer Denny Seiwell to work with them, also. This album hit #1 in the UK, and #5 here in the states. What this album did, however, was show some great collaboration. Later, in 1971, Denny Laine, guitarist, formerly of the Moody Blues fame joined the threesome and the band “Wings” was formed. Paul remembers that “Wings” was going to be a tough show. Any group or stage act that had to fol-

MCCARTNEY: PAGE 31

TV TALK with BILL CUSHING



ABC’s ‘Single Parents’ Is The Fall’s Best New Comedy

Bill Cushing
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

ABC has become known for its comedies over the last 10 years or so, but now with many of the sitcoms getting older the network has been looking for that next crop of shows to take over. Last season they had ‘Splitting Up Together’ starring Oliver Hudson and Jenna Fischer which was very successful and well received. This season they may just have an even better one in ‘Single Parents’

The series was created and produced by JJ Philbin and Elizabeth Meriwether, creators of the FOX series ‘New Girl.’ It stars Taran Killam (Saturday Night Live) as Will Cooper, a single dad to his daughter Sophie. Will, in attempting to provide the best possible life for his child, has gone deep into what the other parents call “The Vortex.” This is when a parent is so committed to their children that they forget about the other parts of their lives that don’t involve the kids.

Will meets a diverse group of single parents whose kids all share a class with Will’s daughter. They recognize the things Will is doing wrong and they take him under their wing. But while the other parents think they have it all together, they need help from each other a lot too.

first-time dad with a newborn. Rounding out the group of parents is Douglas Fogerty played by Brad Garrett (Everybody Loves Raymond). Doug is the oldest member of the group. He’s a staunch conservative widowed plastic surgeon with twin girls. Together this group try to help and show Will that being a single parent doesn’t mean you can’t have a life.

‘Single Parents’ is an ensemble sitcom with a lot of laughs and fine comedic performances highlighted by the work of Leighton Meester and Brad Garrett. The young child actors in this series are really great too. They deliver their lines like seasoned comedy pros.

While it might be a little too early to tell if ABC has another long lasting sitcom on their hands, ‘Single Parents’ has been good and should get better and it has been picked up for a full season, so that’s a good sign. It’s a fun show that has a lot of heart and a good cast that already feels like they’ve been together for years, working like a well-oiled machine. All of these reasons make ‘Single Parents’ worth checking out.

‘Single Parents’ airs Wednesday nights at 9:30 on ABC.



If you have any questions about TV you can email me at BillsTVPatTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.

Follow me on Twitter @BillsTVPatTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVPatTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion. ♦

This group of parents is led by Angie D’Amato, played by Leighton Meester (Gossip Girl). Her son Graham wants to bring an item of his mother’s clothes to school on his first day so her scent can comfort him. Joining Angie is bookstore owner Poppy Banks (Kimrie Lewis) and her blazer wearing son Rory. 20 something hipster Miggy Park (Jake Choi), a



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HERO: FROM PAGE 1

me to attend medical school. This was a difficult path to choose as the selection is based on class rank, and there are many, many brilliant students at the Naval Academy. Additionally, I was competing in varsity athletics at the NCAA Division I level which consumed hours daily. With hard work and the support of my fantastic professors and coaches, I graduated in the top 10 of my class. I did well enough to be invited to apply for graduate scholarships to study in the United Kingdom.

I was selected for the British Marshall Scholarship to attend Trinity College, Cambridge University for two years. The Marshall Scholarship is a program through the British Embassy which selects up to forty young Americans (usually civilians) of high ability to pursue graduate degrees at the British university of their choosing in order to foster cooperation and support the special relationship between our nations. They were excellent hosts and I had the opportunity to meet many dignitaries and even engaged in a conversation with the former Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, about how her mother baked bread on Sundays.

The Navy next granted my request to enter a combined MD-PhD program at The Ohio State University College of Medicine and Graduate School in return for more years of obligated service. One of my favorite parts of being a medical student at OSU was watching the new fathers show their tiny swaddled infants the OSU football stadium through the windows of the maternity ward, “Look, someday I’ll take you to a game there...”. I completed my PhD in biostatistics and my medical degree. Following graduation as a doctor, I returned to active service as an intern in Pediatrics in Bethesda, Maryland.

In the Navy, after internship, it is expected that you serve the fleet. I decided that I would become an Undersea Medical Officer (UMO), a doctor for divers and submariners. To become a UMO, one must pass Navy Dive School in Panama City, Florida as part of the 6 months of specialized training. Luckily, my brother is much bigger than me and frequently tried to drown me (for fun) when we were kids. This helped me during “pool week”, as there was nothing the “sharks” could do that I had not experienced before.

Upon graduation, I was sent to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii to the Naval Submarine Support Command. My job as the medical department head was to run the waterfront clinic and supervise the 21 Independent Duty Corpsmen on the 18 Los Angeles Class submarines stationed there at the time. Part of my job was to audit the records and programs prior to deployments. This was best accomplished during short underway periods of 3-7 days. The XO’s of the submarines were gracious enough to allow me to crash in their staterooms, as this was prior to the time that women were permitted to serve as permanent crew members.

I have great affection for the submarine force and am grateful for the acceptance and respect that the ward rooms and crews of the boats showed me. I learned to play cribbage and how to run on a treadmill in the engine room while the boat was changing depth (it is a good thing there are handles on those things!). I also always had the support of my Commanding Officer, CAPT William Stevenson. Over time, I completed the requirements including ride time to become an Undersea Medical Officer Qualified in Submarines. I sat my board on the USS Key West during a transit from Hawaii to Washington. I was awarded the coveted dolphins in 2008, becoming one of the first women



to earn submarine qualifications in the US Navy... but wonderfully, I am now in good company!

I finished my tour as an undersea medical officer and returned to pediatrics (there are actually many similarities). I completed my residency in pediatrics at Naval Medical Center San Diego, California and a three-year fellowship in Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, WA. During fellowship, I became interested in Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Autism Spectrum Disorders are mysterious in their origin and have been increasing in prevalence to an estimate now of 1 in 59 children in the United States. Sleep disorders are frequent comorbidities of ASD. This association has become the focus of my research. I also study the care of military children with ASD and other special needs. My work has focused on access to covered behavioral treatments for military-connected children with ASD, and the effect of moving homes and schools on children with ASD.

I transferred to Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) in Portsmouth, VA in 2015 where I became the division head of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics and also covered developmental services at Naval bases in Europe, traveling to Rota, Spain, Sigonella, Italy, and Naples, Italy. I love the children that I care for and take great joy in celebrating their accomplishments and abilities.

I was recently selected as the Associate Director for Professional Education at NMCP. Along with the director, we lead 7 departments including the Graduate Medical Education Department which includes 13 residency programs and the Clinical Investigation Department. I am nearing retirement eligibility, but plan to see where this new journey will take me. With the support of my husband and children, I am excited for continued adventures.



John Cuddy served in the US Navy's Construction Battalions (also known as the Seabees) after retiring from the Navy, he earned a BA in History and an MA in Economics from the University of Massachusetts on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 21 years. If you know a World War II Veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com. ♦

The Higher Price of Living Large Rick Bellanti / Health & Wellness

Rick Bellanti
HEALTH & WELLNESS COLUMNIST

I have been writing about health and wellness and the effects of being overweight and what obesity does to our bodies and the health risks involved like developing: Type II diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, sleep issues and more. Now studies are showing fat discrimination is on the rise, bullying, ridicule and the constant butt of fat jokes. I myself was bullied relentlessly because of my weight issues from the first day of the first grade until the day I graduated high school - (and still today too, at 53 years old).

Now, the fact that school kids bullying one another is nothing new, but the sheer extent of their dislike for overweight kids surely is, and overweight kids are sixty-five percent more likely to be bullied at school than kids that are average weight. That number is so large now, that it's scary and it's only getting worse. Studies have shown that kids who are bullied because of their weight issues, are more likely to stay overweight and continued to be bullied and discriminated against, and it will continue to do so into adulthood.

While the health risks mentioned above, along with the emotional issues of being bullied and discriminated against, can certainly take its toll on your wellbeing, let's talk about the high costs involved with living as a large person. Let's face it, healthy foods sometimes cost more, just take one trip to a grocery store and look around, you'll see immediately that the healthy food choices do not come cheap. Eating healthy foods on a budget does require more work, it may be less appealing taking the time to plan in this fast-paced world we live in but it can be done.

Our growing waistlines have an increasing effect on our bottom lines, too. Life and health insurance premiums rise, and prescription medicines cost more because we have medical issues associated with being overweight. Even the cost of your clothing is more than the average size person. For example, recently, at a local department store I picked up a 2xl buttoned down shirt for \$18.99 (three dollars



more than the price for a small to extra-large size). In the past I had to purchase a buttoned down shirt at the specialty Big and Tall or XL Size store and paid just under \$70.00 for a 5xl size shirt.

The good news is, just by making some adjustments, losing weight and making healthier lifestyle choices may bring the “cost” of you living overweight down significantly, like by helping you reduce your risk of serious health conditions, including heart disease, high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes. Saving you money from higher insurance premiums and medications because keeping illnesses at bay means fewer trips to the pharmacy and in turn, less money being spent on medication for chronic health conditions each year.

Don't forget, just by dropping some weight and moving into smaller sizes, you'll be able to purchase the clothes you want at lower prices keeping you out of pricey specialty stores.

Of course, the number one cost of your unhealthy lifestyle is you; don't let living an unhealthy lifestyle cost you your life. Studies show that overweight patients who lower their weight may reap health benefits by keeping chronic diseases away and that could potentially add years to their lives. I think we can all agree that living longer and with less extra expense is our goal.

Rick Bellanti is a wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs, and has lost 160lbs since the start of 2015. You can find Rick on Facebook at: Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti ♦

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Thankful for Jesus!

Peter Larocque
RELIGION COLUMNIST

As we approach Thanksgiving this year I find myself so thankful to God who so loved me and still does love me in spite of all my sin, failures and screw ups. Knowing this, God still gave His Son Jesus for me and not just to save me from hell, but to give me Eternal Life and make me righteous, fit for Heaven!

At the Cross of Jesus Christ, God placed all my shortcomings, all of my sin which guaranteed me a place in hell, on the body of Jesus. We read this in 2 Corinthians 5:21, “For he [God] hath made him [Jesus] to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” All of my ugliness, all of my bad habits and attitudes especially concerning work, God put on Jesus. Including all my past, present and future sins! Jesus’ blood keeps cleansing me continually! His blood is the fountain that never ends! And there is so much more of why I am thankful for Jesus.

Under the Law of Moses, the children of Israel were covered under the blood of bulls, goats or lambs and pigeons. Bulls covered the rich, goats or lambs for the middle class and pigeons for the poor. All of these were sacrificed, killed humanely, the animals were not tortured. They were sacrificed with one stroke of the knife swiftly and most likely in the throat area and never dying in pain. These animal sacrifices could only cover sin, they couldn’t take them away which is stated in Hebrews 10:4, “For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.” But Jesus our Passover Lamb which was pointed out by John the Baptist in John 1:29, “The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” Then mentioned later by the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 5:7, “For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:”

Jesus’ sacrifice was anything but humanely! He was tortured and felt every bit of it! The Bible says in Isaiah 53:2-5, “For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.³ He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows,[our pains] and acquainted with grief:[our sicknesses] and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.⁴ Surely he hath borne our griefs, [deceases] and carried our sorrows:[pains] yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised [crushed] for our iniquities: the chastisement [our guilty judgment] of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.”

Excruciating pain tore through His

body at the cross. Every malignant cancer, every tumor, every sickness, every disease came upon Him all at the same time. He who knew no sin took upon Himself the mountainous weight of all men’s darkest and foulest sins. He took it all Himself and became unrecognizable as a human being, despised and rejected!

Back in those Bible days, under normal circumstances criminals found guilty for lesser crimes would be wiped, scourged, and criminals found guilty for major crimes would be crucified, our Jesus the innocent lamb received both. He was tortured on our behalf so that not only would our sins be forgiven, washed away by his Blood but our sicknesses and diseases would be healed by his stripes!

This one-time sacrifice which we read about in Hebrews 10:12, “But this man, [Jesus] after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God;” This sacrifice need never be repeated! Whereas the sacrifice of animals had to be performed again and again!

This offering of Jesus as it says in Hebrews 10:14, “For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.” This sacrifice makes us perfect and sanctified in the eyes of God Almighty! This my friends is the Grace of God!

Galatians 1:3-5, goes on to say, “Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: 5 To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

Jesus’ death on the cross not only delivered us from this world but also from every curse that was on our heads, he took on Himself! We read this in Galatians 3:13, “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree[cross]:”

So, knowing the real significant of the cross of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, this makes me very thankful to God for this wonderful gift, The Gift of Jesus!

The Great Philosophers of the world say, “Know thyself”. Those who are of the spiritual warfare movement say, “Know your enemy”. But Jesus says in John 17:3, “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.” To know God and His Son Jesus Christ whom He has sent is the Greatest Knowledge of All!

This Thanksgiving Season when there are so many things and circumstances to cause me to be unthankful, I am thankful to God for giving me Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior! I am also thankful for my wife Pam, my children and their spouses, my grandchildren, friends, and readers of my column every month.

Love you all! Happy Thanksgiving!
Peter Larocque
peterlarocque@hotmail.com ◇

Robin’s Kitty Corner

Healing Kittens

Robin Desmet
VALLEY PATRIOT KITTY COLUMNIST

My boyfriend Paul tells me all the time that his cat Goldy brings down his high blood pressure. I used to chuckle when he said that, but after doing some research on the subject, I have learned that this actually may be true. In fact, there was a study done on the subject back in the 1970s. I know a lot has changed since the 1970s, but I’m pretty sure that cats haven’t changed that much over the years. The study took place over a 20 year time span and included over 4000 participants. Results of the study showed that owning a cat can reduce your risk of having a heart attack or stroke by more than 30%. Not bad. Now I am not suggesting you throw away your antihypertensive medications, but I do think this study speaks to what I have always known. Animals can definitely help improve your health and well-being.

A couple of years ago I was admitted to the hospital in a tremendous amount of pain and I ended up having emergency surgery. When I arrived home the next day I went straight to the living room and lay down on the couch, fatigued and quite sore. As if on cue, my 6 little MSPCA foster kittens immediately piled onto my legs. All 6 kittens began a symphony of purring that brought an immediate smile to my face. I don’t think I have ever felt more relaxed in my life. I spent the better part of the week on the couch with those kittens, listening to their sweet purring, resting and recuperating. I swear they helped me heal.


Turns out, this could be true. Science has shown that the frequency of the vibrations from a cats purr can actually promote healing. These low intensity vibrations have been shown to help with many medical conditions, including improving bone health, tendon repair, and wound healing. NASA has been using vibration therapy for years to strengthen the bones and muscles of its astronauts. This type of vibrational therapy, which is at the same



frequency as a cat’s purr, is now being used to treat chronic pain associated with arthritis and to help reduce muscle pain and soreness in athletes. Vibration therapy is also being used for migraine relief and to help improve circulation.

Despite all this talk of vibrations and purring, I think the most important health benefits that cats provide are emotional, not physical. I don’t think it can be disputed that cat ownership improves mood and helps reduce stress and anxiety. Cats have a way of soothing the soul and bringing joy into the home. Their purrs bring instant peace and relaxation. They can wipe away the stresses of the day with their silly antics and exuberant play. Can cats really help you heal? I am not sure, but I do know this—they definitely can make you feel better.

Author: Robin Desmet, Rph and MSPCA volunteer ◇



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To our neighbors,

As a North Andover based company and long-time residents of the Merrimack Valley, our thoughts go out to all those impacted by the recent gas crisis. While it is unknown exactly when gas services will be restored in the Merrimack Valley,

ACE Solar would like to offer assistance where we can.

If you purchase an ACE Solar system for your home between now and December 31, 2018, we will convert your gas water heater to an electric water heater at no cost to you.* We hope this will help you and your family begin the return to normalcy with hot water while the solar system will help to offset the additional electricity cost for decades to come.

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Sincerely,



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*Offer available to homeowners of Andover, North Andover, and Lawrence, and cannot be combined with any other offer. ACE Solar will purchase and install a new 30, 40 or 50-gallon Rheem electric water heater, or equivalent, at no cost to the homeowner. Offer available until December 31, 2018, restrictions may apply.

Property Sales, Foreclosures for OCTOBER, 2018 in Andover, North Andover, Lawrence, & Methuen. (All properties are listed in order; seller, buyer, price, address.)



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ANDOVER

Sally A Francis & Robert A Park Est, Armen & Christine Kourkounian, \$562,500, 141 Chandler Rd

Francis X & Maureen K Addonizio, Steven C Bucci, \$480,000, 18 Upland Rd

BAV Realty LLC, Morell Realty LLC, \$375,000, 1 Elm Sq Unit L9-2

Douglas J & Isabelle R Draper, Tyler J & Kathryn V Richer, \$747,500, 41 Farrwood Dr

Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Joseph R Bruno, \$379,255, 1 Francis Dr Unit 404

Nancy A Simili, Danielle Quarta-Camiel, \$519,000, 185 Lowell St

Gary A & Marjorie A Patch , Yogesh & Hetalben Patel, \$1,385,000, 8 Christian Wy

Michael E Rau Tr & Alice R Gunawan Tr & Rau-Gunawan Revocable Trust of 2017, Matthew G Gosselin Tr & Goose Family Revocable Trust, \$850,000, 18 Blueberry Hill Rd

Richard G & Yvonne Roycroft, Jason & Danielle Edmondson, \$779,900, 3 Shawnee Cir

Philip J Doucet Tr & Laure A Doucet 2002 Revocable Trust, Richard & Yvonne Roycroft, \$490,000, 63 Lovejoy Rd

Dongkwon Shin, Judith A Gee, \$204,000, 40 Colonial Dr Unit 40-4

Zong Hong Zou & Mei Lin Lam, Xian Wu, \$190,000, C2 Colonial Dr Unit C2-5

Philip L Green & Nancy A Bergeron, Stephen D Arrigo, \$1,300,000, 11 Stinson Rd

John A & Ellen C Christopher, David Jarmel & Ashley Hayes, \$730,000, 80 Lovejoy Rd

Kathleen M Scanlon Tr & Scanlon Trust of North Main St, Stephen C Hocht, \$286,000, 250 North Main St Unit 6

Dennis & M Susan Pineault, Brett & Amanda MacQuarrie, \$614,000, 8 South Tanglewood Wy

Keith Pearlstein, Glenn W & Jean L Simons, \$225,000, A-4 Colonial Dr Unit A4-8

Ming Jin & Xiaoling Yang, Sameer Yadav & Nupur Aggarwal, \$683,000, 105 Bellevue Rd

Seagull Realty LLC, Jeffrey Medeiros & Cristiane Monaghan, \$499,900, 39 Stinson Rd

ICP Construction Inc, P8/Oliver 150 Dascomb LLC, \$21,300,000, 150 Dascomb Rd

Pen & Sue K Hsieh/Sue Hsieh, Gengxi & Ning Chen, \$790,000, 4 Atwood Ln

Thomas E & Patricia M Malone Trs & Malone Family Irrevocable Trust, Michael Janega, \$502,500, 46 Lupine Rd

Priscilla H Morse Tr & Priscilla H Morse Revocable Trust, Pamela Yameen, \$325,000, 250 North Main St Unit 7

Washington Park Realty Trust & Kimberlee D Brown Tr/Kimberlee A Brown Tr, Shirley A Stanley, \$208,000, 20A Washington Park Dr Unit 4

Joy Stafford-Evans/Joy S G Stafford/Joy S G Stafford-Evans, Andrew Pritchard & Alexis Winnell, \$447,500, 35 Lowell St

Twelve Cuba Street Nominee Realty Trust & Ronald J Gomes Tr, American Real Estate Development LLC, \$331,000, 2 Cuba St

Philipp & Kristen D Harlov, Frederick DeLisio, \$300,000, 63 Andover St

Jae Yong Jung & Ji Hyun Lee, William A & Patricia B Davison, \$925,000, 19 Ivana Dr Unit 11-3

Reynolds Family Realty Trust & Thomas J & Gail Reynolds Trs, Katherine Anne Bruno & Michael Carpenter Bruno, \$809,000, 56 Porter Rd

Arnold W Dyer Jr, Matthew & Amanda Strong, \$500,000, 9 Torr St

Michael C & Katherine A Bruno Trs & Michael/Katie Trust, Matthew & Jessica Guba, \$469,000, 16 Rocky Hill Rd

Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Francis D & Maureen A Faucher, \$345,775, 1 Francis Dr Unit 202

Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Paraskevas & Mary Mourtzinis, \$699,995, 6 Hood Dr Unit 196

Mina M O’Brien 1993 Trust & Joseph E O’Brien Tr & Michael O’Brien Tr & Kevin O’Brien & Joanne O’Brien, Shelby Y Baecker & Jennifer A Roberts, \$625,000, 7 Cedar Rd

James A & Mary L Cuticchia, Erik J & Sarah B Mysliwy, \$450,000, 127 Greenwood Rd

Mark J Bernardin & Melanie E Bernardin & Robert E Bernardin Jr Tr & Peter E Bernardin Tr & Grace M Bernardin Irrevocable Trust, Anne Marie and Associates LLC, \$650,000, 138-140 Elm St

Margaret Jane W Barnhill, Northstar RE Solutions LLC, \$513,200, 28 Wolcott Ave

Tristan & Kelly Dwyer/Kelly Holland, Kimberly Penta, \$210,000, 2 Colonial Dr Unit A2-4

LAWRENCE

Cedar Real Estate Corp, 184 Jackson St LLC, \$465,000, 184 Jackson St

George D Koontz, Solomon & Diana H Senteza, \$450,000, 68-70 Manchester St

Ahmed Aman, Yrania Arias, \$345,000, 26-28 Florence St

Lewis Green & Calvin E Green & Sherard S Ware, Pascual Enterprises Inc, \$112,000, 15 Margin St

Danielle Lozzi, Edgar R Granillo Lopez & Jennyfer Jasmin Salguero Rubio, \$307,000, 95 Brookfield St

Corrine C St Hilaire, Eddy I Ynfante-Abreu & Katherine E Molina, \$335,000, 8 Everett St

Jean J D’Onofrio & Mary J Dodson & Carol Benjaminson, Jaime Rivas Soto & Blanca C Duran Rivas, \$410,000, 30-32 Katherine St

Gina J Consentino, Edi Pina, \$321,000, 69 Eastside St

Golden Turf Properties LLC, Evelyn M Rodriguez, \$270,000, 50 Columbus Ave

Arianny Arias, Jamiles De La Cruz, \$225,000, 52 Gilbert St Unit 1

Luis A Lugo, Ramon E Ortiz, \$166,000, 22 Pleasant St Unit 2

Tebul Bau & Alexis Pablo, Property Realty Group LLC, \$80,000, 12 Acton St Unit 205

Tai V Man Tr & Thuyen L Tsang Tr & 421-425 Essex Street Realty Trust, Essex Street Realty Property LLC, \$750,000, 421-425 Essex St

PJC Realty MA Inc, Walgreen Eastern Co Inc, \$640,000, 363-365, 369-373 Essex St

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Ping Zuo & Lawrence City, Chloe LLC, \$160,539.03 , 44 Union St

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Leyda S Felix, Eniola Tuby-Lukan, \$265,000, 13 Pleasant St Unit 13

Ramona Nunez, Xiomara Benitez, \$135,000, 244 Mount Vernon St Unit 1

Carlos Cortes, Domingo Maria & Anny Almonte De Maria, \$339,900, 75 Garfield St

42-44 Jamaica Street LLC, Ernestina Arias, \$269,000, 46 Jamaica St Unit 1

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Lisette Ramirez, Evelyn & Johany Castillo, \$222,000, 7 Lincoln Ct Unit 7A

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Rafael D Castro & Berenice A Rosario De Caceres, Ahsan B Saysourivong & Anmary Gil, \$399,000, 46 Ayer St

Jaime & Gisele Crespo, Andrew C Zafiris, \$330,000, 2 Milk St

PLS Realty Trust & Patrick Nysten Tr, Beljamous LLC, \$167,900, 126A Pleasant Valley St Unit 7

William Pare Tr & Columbus Avenue Realty Trust, Miguelina Santana, \$163,815, 50 High St Units G-3 & 9

Yohel Pena, Guadalupe & Alfa Hernandez, \$314,000, 20 Birchwood Rd

Karen Ann Phillips, Annmarie Rodriguez, \$260,000, 159 Lowell St

Toll MA IV LLC, Bradan & Tracy Curley, \$670,820, 82 Pine Tree Dr Unit 124

Gregory J Clemons & Lisa Petruzelli Clemons, William & Phyllis Marini, \$540,000, 58 Sorrento Ave

Frances K Clancy, Thomas Varghese & Crystal Sroka, \$365,000, 15 Hampshire Rd Unit 50

REAL ESTATE: NEXT PAGE

REAL ESTATE: FROM 28

Joanne Morgan, Moises Melo, \$345,000, 24 Vincent Ave
Bruce T & Maria Kowalski, Martires Santana, \$185,000, 25 Bentley Cir Unit 5
Toll MA IV LLC, Maull Family Living Trust & John W Maull Sr Tr & Noel S Maull Tr, \$667,661, 1 Tahoe Cir Unit 34
Michael J Collins & Michelle Diaz-Colins, Tomorrow & Cleon James, \$515,000, 17 Buttonwood Dr
Rick & Diane Longtin/Townsend , Samantha Trant & Christopher Kelly, \$325,000, 24 Josephine Ave
Roger L Marquis, Blanche M Abaki, \$290,000, 45 Green St
Philip Akmakjian, Rosa Carrasquillo, \$280,000, 505 Lowell St
Riverside Drive LLC, Dennis J & Michael Larocque, \$240,000, 34 Burnham Rd Unit 302
Shaun Parsons & Sherie Parsons & John Brian Parsons, Michael W & Kaitlin T Gaff, \$220,000, 3 Fulton St
Maria D Miranda/Maria Castillo, 65 Mystic St-Unit 11 LLC, \$132,000, 65 Mystic St Unit 17
Dennis J Maschio, William E Ziegler, \$447,500, 15 Athens Wy
Jose Charles, Jordan & Irma Dos Santos, \$440,000, 31 Beaumont Rd
Edwin C Taylor III & Leslie A Taylor, Casey E Watkins & Andrew J Joyal, \$375,000, 55 Olive St
Argishti Gukasyan, Rafael Allendy Castillo, \$345,000, 25 Merrill St
Sarath Akkineni & Sandhya Pillalmarri, Manthan & Shivani Patel, \$625,000, 37 Fairways Ln
Domenic M Mariano, Ashley Salcedo & Julio Ernesto Salcedo Espinosa, \$400,000, 4-6 Channing St
Darcy R Chabot, Binh N Cao & Loan P Pham, \$360,000, 27 Booth Rd
Jason & Lauren Messina, Melissa Tulley, \$280,000, 82 Reservoir St
Karen Wilson & Norman Tardugno & Neil D Tardugno & Barry Tardugno & Brian C Tardugno, Rafic Tony Saadi, \$215,000, 231 Forest St
Carmela T Previti Tr/Carmela T De-Marco & Costechepe Realty Trust, Candy N Nguyen, \$102,000, 50 Danbury Dr Unit 19
Coleen Walsh Est & June C Dunne Rep, Michael Edward Wholley, \$359,900, 1 Firenze St
Michael G Angelo Sr, Angel J Rivera & Adlin Siri, \$320,000, 9 Oneida St
Homes At Great Oaks LLC, David & Sarah Dumont, \$600,000, 9 Sadie Ln
Henry Sitt Kong & Judith Rita Kong, Jill K & John P Porreca, \$432,150, 294 Oak St

Marcelle T Allen, Luisanna & Ana Jiminez, \$318,700, 3 Moody Ave
Diane M Gosselin, Maureen Celata, \$260,000, 56 Tudor St
Leoandy Guzman & Emely Barreto, Hieu Hong, \$479,500, 57 Lippold St
Richard A & Janice M Benoit, Jamil Ball & Silvia Ball-Costa, \$509,900, 62 Bridle Path Ln
Maroun Bechara & Dany E Karam , Raymond Charles Spinazola Jr, \$400,000, 9 Hall St
Nikolas A Amicone/Nikolas Anthony Amicone, Nicholas A Sapienza, \$300,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 8-101
Ross & Berta Krupnik, Platinum Real Estate LLC, \$217,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 1-102
Julie M Wilder, Paul R Fowler, \$185,000, 3 Wallace St
Hales Landing LLC, Hung V & Cindy Trinh, \$572,400, 31 Marjorie St Ext
Norma C Samoisette, Marcos Tulio Interriano, \$355,000, 3 Lantern Ln
Jane LaBranche Tr & Jane LaBranche Revocable Trust, Gerald & Daniella Ceus, \$339,000, 10 Hampshire Cir
Linda A Nieman & Bruce M Cole, Santos Taveras, \$260,000, 1A Westland St
Anita Mazzaglia & Anthony J Mazzaglia Jr & Elaine Mawhinney & Brenda DeStefano & Diane Allen, Peter Silva, \$239,000, 73 Brown St
William J Shepley Jr, Andrea M Bettencourt & Ann Bettencourt, \$185,000, 13 Mount Vernon St Unit R
Toll MA IV LLC, Marianne Dalias 1998 Trust & Marianne Dalias Tr & Robert Dalias Tr & Robert Dalias 1998 Trust, \$698,889, 71 Pine Tree Dr Unit 74
John W Mushow, 27 Armstrong Ave LLC, \$218,500, 27 Armstrong Ave
Fouad E & Sarah G Dagher, Fouad E Dagher, \$242,000, 16 Copley Dr
Mounir & Antoinette Jermany, Oswaldo V Navarro Fuentes & Zuleyma C Navarro, \$445,000, 7-9 Swan Ave
Maxwell Trejo, Kervin K Presley & Syha B Pheng, \$415,000, 82-84 Haverhill St
Peter D & Bounnhou K Stevens, Jessica Worthen, \$365,000, 197-199 Lowell St
Mildred D Kenyon, David & Maria Lopez, \$350,000, 4 Bruce St
V MORTGAGE REO 3 LLC, Michael Soloman, \$210,000, 56 Oak Hill Dr
Maria Disano, Maribel M Lopez & Luis Sandoval, \$205,000, 106 Swan St Unit 106
New England Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, H & H Properties LLC, \$100,000, 411 Merrimack St Unit 3
Toll MA IV LLC, Raymond E & Joanne

M Wardle Trs & Wardle Family Trust, \$731,995, 4 Tahoe Cir Unit 28
Ethan Conley, Britney Thibodeau & Randy Morales, \$485,000, 97A Druid Hill Ave
Britney J Thibodeau & Randy J Morales, Samuel Kusa, \$370,000, 14 Partridge Rd
David & Elizabeth C Sarvard, Karima Lahyani & Brahim Azzou, \$367,000, 32 Garden City Rd
Victor J R Duphily Jr Est & Stephen J Duphily, Jana Zanni & Vincenzo Pesce, \$275,000, 45 Greendale St
U S Bank N A Tr, Eris Garcia, \$240,000, 129 Ashland Ave
Caryl M Garcia & Ramon G Garcia & Lidia E Garcia, Ayden Moukdad, \$195,000, 61 Pilgrim Cir Unit 61
Nick & Ida Katsoulis, Adam D & Michelle A Carola, \$668,000, 176 Old Ferry Rd
David Vito Sangiorgio, Yanil Regus, \$489,900, 7-9 Adelaide Ave
John & Breanne Speciale, Martin F Banks Jr & Denise Banks, \$460,000, 48 Longview Ter
Derek & Laura A Doucette/Laura A Reagan, Robert C Dunn, \$325,000, 57 Clayton Ave
Toll MA IV LLC, Wang K & Hwa K Shin, \$665,292, 30 Sequoia Dr Unit 53
Toll MA IV LLC, Ross W & Kathleen E Fenton, \$641,995, 9 Sequoia Dr Unit 109
Robert G Boyle Tr & Debra A Kuczynski Tr & Debra A Kuczynski Revocable Trust, Maroun Bechara & Dany E Karam, \$460,000, 28 Hampstead St
Doreen D’Agati/Doreen McAlarney, Riche & Myrlande Seizeme, \$310,000, 55 Lorenzo Cir
Matthew Koskinen, Demetrious & Rhonda M Wolfe, \$309,270, 4 Thissell St
Marie & Mark Comeau, Georgino & Ada De Leon, \$179,000, 395 Merrimack St Unit 42
Alcro Development LLC, Roy E & Janet M Nelson, \$594,900, 30 Stone Castle Dr Unit 18
Kathleen M O’Neill & Christine M Mann & Colleen M Mitchell & Maureen R Pattison & Eileen M Conlon & Rita A Neal, Jamie & Mark St Jean, \$342,500, 209 Hampstead St
Franco Scavaglieri & Rocco Scavaglieri, Raissa M Brito, \$320,000, 692 Jackson St
Edward King-Azcona, Timothy & Courtney Gedrich, \$242,000, 40 Meriline Ave
Federal National Mortgage Association & Fannie Mae, Jorge A Mayorga, \$230,000, 11 Edgewood Ter

NORTH ANDOVER

Stonewall Place LLC, 1820 NA LLC,

\$5,000,000, 1820-1830 Turnpike St
Scott R Longueil, Nina DiFruscia & George Landingham, \$445,000, 35-37 May St
Steven P Pecci, Diane M McBride, \$239,900, 148 Main St Unit B-535
Lynda A Marshall, Florence Ma & William Ma Jr & Julie Ann Ma, \$219,000, 148 Main St Unit K423
991 Osgood Street LLC, DLS Realty LLC, \$1,300,000, 989, 991-993, 995 Osgood St Units 2, 3, 5
Olivia L Cornell & Samuel K Schwarz, Smart Start LLC, \$426,000, 65 Elm St
Carol Kreidermacher Tr & Paul Firth Tr & Ella E Firth Irrevocable Trust , LS Property LLC, \$400,000, 32 Cabot Rd
Robert E & Linda C Barnes, Beya F Patukaya & Dembo Chantal L Beya, \$450,000, 116 Prescott St Unit 116
William J Sherman Jr & Sadie Rachel Sherman, Sarah N Gould, \$218,000, 28 Fernview Ave Unit 10
Michael J Demers, Sinan Uguz & Nancy Diaz, \$369,900, 46 May St
Joseph T & Anne J Quinn, Damien & Megan Glennon, \$700,000, 189 Carlton Ln
Damien T & Megan A Glennon, David Bruce Slagle Jr & Rachel Marie Slagle, \$665,000, 121 Raleigh Tavern Ln
Dizzy Bridge Realty Trust & Carrie M & Kenneth C Crouch Trs, Cygnus Opaque Investments LLC Tr & Black Swan Realty Trust, \$500,000, 201 Sutton St
Berry/114 Company LLC, Phani Kanth Sunke, \$498,300, 14 Compass Point Unit M4
Michael T Keohan, DAEC Home Improvement LLC, \$260,000, 54 Elm St Unit 54
James Kostoulakos, Chance C Thornton, \$242,000, 64 Jefferson St Unit 62
David A Catalano Tr & Barbara L Ash Tr & David & Joanne Catalano Irrevocable Trust, Janet S Fischer, \$320,500, 6 Stacy Dr
Diana Mabry/Diana Freitas, Tina Lynn Freitas, \$491,500, 12 Mathews Wy Unit 12
Robert P & Valerie J Beaudoin, Brian McNulty, \$89,000, 575 Turnpike St Unit 15A
Erika L & Brett Hemingway & Andrew M & Pamela M Lambie, Sanjay Singh & Vaidehi Shah, \$380,000, 26 Main St Unit 1
Compass Properties Inc, Erica Ricci, \$929,900, 271 Stevens St
TKZ LLC, Sean H & Alyssa M Kevlahan, \$910,000, 75 Nutmeg Ln
Petre & Roxana Daniela Minciunescu, Andriy & Inna Kochura, \$222,500, 39 Village Green Dr Unit 34
Paul E Gaudes Tr & 2010 Gaudes Family Revocable Trust, William P Norris, \$225,000, 148 Main St Unit 0-208
Terry C Gann & Minta Jollene Shir-

REAL ESTATE: PAGE 31



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Newly elected State Senator Diana DiZoglio with Brian Firth and Mark Boisvert of Methuen at her victory party at Maria's in Haverhill election night.



Valley Patriot Sports columnist Shawn Hansen with retired Red Sox great Jerry Remy at the Greater Boston Sports Collectors Show put on this month by the Shriners.



Governor's Councilor Eileen Duff won re-election earlier this month. Duff appeared on the Paying Attention Podcast to debate her opponents Rich Baker and Mark Mercier the week before the election.

Remember ... the news media doesn't have to LIE to manipulate you into voting the way they want you to vote. When they only show reality from one point of view, your decisions become based on anger and negativity.



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Environmental Leadership Scholarships for Massachusetts High School Seniors

The Henry David Thoreau Foundation awards collegiate scholarships of up to \$20K to eight to ten students graduating from public or private high schools in Massachusetts.

The Henry David Thoreau Scholarships are up to \$20,000 four-year scholarships awarded to eight students graduating from public or private high schools in Massachusetts. High school seniors awarded the Henry David Thoreau Scholarships can enroll in any college and university in the world while they major or minor in an environmentally-related field. Henry David Thoreau Scholars are encouraged to enroll in internships or study abroad to broaden their awareness and understanding of environmental issues.

Henry David Thoreau Scholars have studied a wide variety of environmentally-related areas, including biology, epidemiology, oceanography, international affairs and environmental law, and upon completing their undergraduate degrees, they became members of the Henry David Thoreau Society. Thoreau Scholar alumni have published articles in the Henry David Thoreau Environmental

Digest, initiated environmental projects on planetary health, and formed companies and organizations including the animation company, Oxbow, with clients including WildAmerica and the Center for Food Safety, satellite imagery startup CrowdAI, and the nonprofit energy organization Equitable Origin.

The Henry David Thoreau Foundation further assists its scholarship winners by identifying environmentally-related internships, offering internship stipends, and providing networking opportunities. Upon graduation from college, Henry David Thoreau Scholars are inducted into the Henry David Thoreau Society. A sign of success of the Henry David Thoreau Foundation’s mission to foster environmental leadership is the support past scholarship winners provide to present scholarship winners.

To learn more about the Henry David Thoreau Foundation and the Henry David Thoreau Scholarships, please visit thoreauscholar.org. An online application will be available in October. Students have until February 1, 2019, to apply. ♦

Help Available to Replace Lost Immigration Documents

Residents who lost immigration documents in the September gas explosion may contact GLCAC’s Immigration Services program for help with getting replacements.

GLCAC’s Immigration program can help residents replace permanent resident cards and naturalization certificates. GLCAC is working with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service Office in Lawrence to fast-track the issuance of new documents.

There is no cost for GLCAC’s services, and GLCAC will assist residents in applying for a waiver from USCIS fees for replacement documents.

Residents can call GLCAC’s Immigration program at (978) 620-4257 or visit 305 Essex Street Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary for seeking to replace documents

lost in gas explosions.

GLCAC’s Immigration program serves low-income clients who are seeking permanent resident status and U.S. citizenship. The services are free and provided by a bilingual staff trained in immigration procedures.

In 2016, the Immigration Services program filed 371 immigration applications at no cost for qualifying clients. The program offers a monthly workshop as a first step for new clients in need of immigration assistance. To make a reservation for the seminar or for more information, call (978) 681-4905.

The seminars are held on the third Friday of every month at 10 a.m. at GLCAC, 305 Essex Street, Lawrence.

For more information on all the programs offered by GLCAC, visit www.glcac.org. ♦

REAL ESTATE: FROM PAGE 29

ley, Margaret T & Thomas E Nallen Jr, \$540,000, 169 Gray St

Jenni Realty Trust & Stephen M Smolak Ind Tr & Sherie A Smolak Trs, Chip & Joyce Will, \$735,000, 762 Dale St

Betsy Doucette, Michael Paige & Kathryn Morgan, \$315,000, 3 Harvest Dr Unit 302

25 COMM NAM LLC, ICBP IV HOLDINGS 26 LLC, \$14,800,000, 25 Commerce Wy

Nancy A & Ronald E Moody, Nigel Godley, \$550,000, 28 Hewitt Ave

Berry/114 Company LLC, Jean-Paul & Tereska E James, \$478,300, 12 Compass Point Unit M3

Angelo L Palermo, Keith Lomas, \$235,000, 37 Kingston St Unit 105

Stefano Manganello & Maria Gagliardo, Anto Nirmal Jayapal & Bhas Dina Shamini Stephen Christin, \$515,000, 32 Leyden St Unit 2

John W McCabe Tr & McCabe Family Trust, Gregory G & Lindsay A LaJoie, \$495,000, 4 Tavern Rd

Samuel Kusa, Michael E Rezendes & Robert P Rezendes, \$480,000, 30 Maple St

Robert Patrick & Laura O’Brien, Peter L Salemi & Alice Gomez, \$665,000, 43

Cobblestone Cir

PAL Realty Development LLC, Bowdoin Capital Group LLC, \$425,000, 190 Hillside Rd

Lawrence R & Deborah J Michaud, Jason L & Robyn E Michaud, \$734,000, 535 Pleasant st

Andrew K & Dorothy S Jeffrey , Christopher & Duangnate Gaudreau/Duangnate Janvijuk, \$620,000, 530 Foster St

Steven A & Lisa L Manganiello, Rajesh Hariharan & Saranya Rajesh, \$257,000, 94 Kingston St Unit 94

John E Parow & Susan P McFarland & Denise P Roser & Helen E Parow & Robert Roser & Patricia A Parow, John P & Joan C Thompson, \$245,000, 148 Main St Unit B534

Tabatha Anne Kempton/Tabatha White, Mohsen Shah, \$405,000, 1104 Acorn Dr Unit 1104

Andrew Ellis & Brianna Marzano, Kevin Joshua Ka-Heng Cheung, \$328,250, 4 Harvest Dr Unit 318

Lindsay Ann & Gregory G Lajoie, Anthony J Milne, \$307,000, 210 Chickering Rd Unit 108A

Ayuda para reemplazar documentos de inmigración perdidos

Los residentes que perdieron documentos de inmigración en las explosiones de gas de septiembre, pueden llamar al Programa de Inmigración de GLCAC y pedir ayuda para conseguir documentos de reemplazo.

El Programa de Inmigración de GLCAC ayuda a los residentes a reemplazar las tarjetas de residencia permanente y los certificados de naturalización. GLCAC colabora con la Oficina de Ciudadanía e Inmigración de Estados Unidos en Lawrence para acelerar la expedición de documentos nuevos.

Los servicios de GLCAC son gratuitos. La agencia ayuda a los residentes a solicitar la exención de las tarifas por reemplazo de documentos.

Los residentes pueden llamar al Programa de Inmigración de GLCAC al (978) 620-4257 o pueden ir directamente a 305 Essex Street, de lunes a viernes de 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. No hace falta hacer cita para solicitar el reemplazo de documentos

perdidos en las explosiones de gas.

El Programa de Inmigración de GLCAC atiende a clientes de bajos ingresos que están solicitando la residencia permanente o la ciudadanía estadounidense. Los servicios son gratuitos y los brinda personal bilingüe capacitado en procedimientos de inmigración.

En 2016, el Programa de Inmigración presentó 371 solicitudes de inmigración sin costo alguno para los clientes que reunían los requisitos. Como primer paso, el programa ofrece talleres una vez por mes para los clientes nuevos que necesitan ayuda con trámites de inmigración. Para hacer una reserva para un taller o para mayor información, llame al (978) 681-4905.

Los talleres se ofrecen el tercer viernes de cada mes a las 10:00 a.m. en GLCAC, 305 Essex Street, Lawrence.

Para mayor información sobre todos los programas de GLCAC, visite www.glcac.org.

MCCARTNEY: FROM PAGE 22

low the Beatles had to be good. Paul said the choices weren’t many for him. It was either give up and be done with music, or give it a go with “Wings.”

I am told I must give it up for this month’s space! We will pick it up right there, next time. This is part one of a three-part story about the great Paul McCartney! I hope you enjoyed this one, as much as I did, with much more to come. So, come

follow me and we’ll see what we can learn.

You can hear Paul’s music when you listen to Cindy’s Vinyl Vault. Remember, we play the best music ever recorded on vinyl. We’re at 980 WCAP Radio every Sunday night at 10:00, Monday night at 11:00 and Wednesday night at 10:00, and remember folks, it’s not how old it is, but how great it sounds! ♦

COPPINGER: FROM PAGE 21

criticized by practicing physicians because it funds “a single drug, manufactured by a single company, with mixed views on the evidence regarding its use.” Namely, Vivitrol by Alkermes, a Massachusetts company that conducted a reverse merger with an Irish company to move offshore and avoid U.S. taxes. See “Trump opioid plan writes in favoritism to single company’s addiction medication” by Lev Facher, @levfacher, March 26, 2018.

So, Coppinger asserts that federal dollars from the Trump Administration moving offshore via Coppinger is the mark of a successful program. Um, no. A program is successful only if the data has been

published in a peer reviewed medical journal and physicians everywhere agree that the data supports the claim. Coppinger’s assertions are a conscious, willful, sleight of hand.

Finally, a fundamental point is inescapable here: Coppinger is engaged in medical decision-making and the practice of medicine without a medical license.

Bharani Padmanabhan MD PhD is a multiple sclerosis neurologist who practiced in Boston till the institutionally corrupt medical board stole his license on July 12, 2017 for reporting Medicaid fraud. scleroplex@gmail.com ♦



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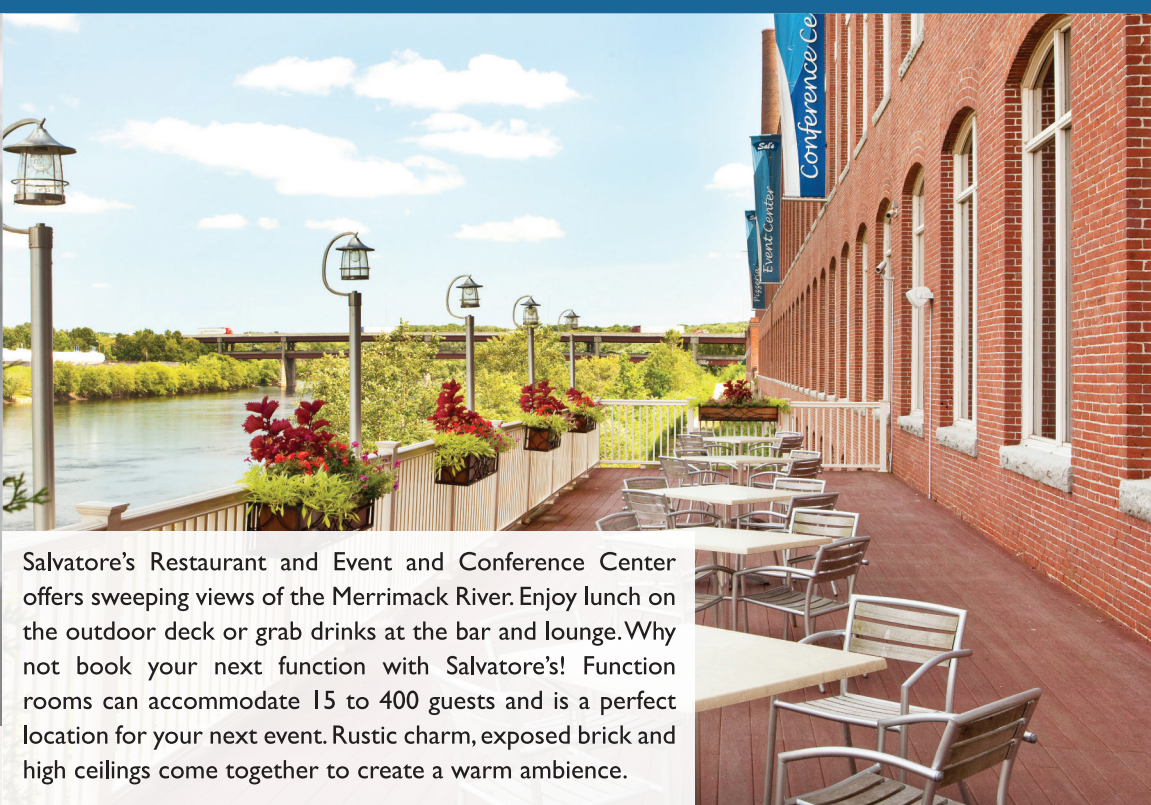


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